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# INDIAN MYTHOLOGY

#### ACCORDING TO THE MAHABHARATA,

IN OUTLINE

BY

V. FAUSBOLL.

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TO BLLEN MY WIFE

MY JOY AND MY LIFE

FOR HER GOOD-WILL AND LOOK

1 DEDICATE THIS BOOK.

#### PREFACE.

If we are ever to find our way through the jungle of Indian Mythology which stretches over so many different places and times, and the prolixity of which is as great as that of Indian nature itself, and if we wish to arrive at a general survey of it, particularly at an exposition of it for the public at large that does not care or trouble to go into details, nor attend to disputed and contradictory matter, -- then we must first have mustered and mastered the different stadia through which it has developed itself. Not until we have had correct and reliable reviews of these stages and have seen what all the different periods have in common. not until then will it be possible to compile a general Indian Mythology. For it will not do to mix up the different periods and call such a mixture or jumble Indian mythology.

Concerning the times of the Veda's we have already some good beginnings in

- A. Bergaigne, La religion Védique. 1-4. Paris 1878-97.
- A. Hillebrandt, Vedische Mythologie. 1-3. Breslan 1891-1902.

- E. Hardy, Die Vodisch-Brahmanische Periode der Religion des alten Indiens. München 1893.
  - H. Oldenberg, Die Religion des Veda. 1894.
  - E. Hopkins, Religions of India. London 1896.
  - A. Macdonell, Vedic Mythology. Strassburg 1897.

But we still lack similar writings for the time of the Brāhmana's and the Upanishad's, for the time of the Epics and the Purāna's, and for the time of the Classical Literature.

We have however, not a few treatises on single subjects from the Veda's and from later times. I here mention some of these which I have noted down. Others may be found in Hardy, Hopkins, Macdonell and Oldenberg.

- Baynes, The Biography of Bhaga. In Actes VIII. Congr. Orient. Leiden 1891.
- Bloomfield, Soma and the Engle. In J. Am. Or. Soc. vol. XVI.
- Bohnenberger, Varuna. Tübingen. 1893.
- Bradke, Dyaus Asura. Halle 1885.
- E. Brandes, Ushas. Kbb. 1879.
- 'Bühler, Zur Mytholgie des Rig-Vedu. In Orient u. Occident. Bd. I.
  - Bühler, Parjanya. In Transact. Philol. Soc. London 1859.
  - Ehni, Die Vermälung d. Soma. In Z. d. d. m. Ges. 33. 1879.
  - Ehni, Der vedische Mythus d. Yama. Strassburg 1890.
  - Ehni, Die urspr. Gottheit. Leipzig 1896.
  - L. Feer, Vritra et Namutchi dans le MBh. In Revue de l'hist. des religions. Tome 14.

- L. Feer, La légende de Rahu. Paris 1865.
- A. Hillobrandt, Aditi. Breslau 1876.
- A. Hillebrandt, Varuna und Mitra. Breslau 1877.
- A. Holtzmann, Die Apsaras. In Z. d d. m. Ges. 33. 1879.
- A. Holtzmann, Agni. Strassburg 1878.
- A. Holtzmann, Brahman. In Z. d. d. m. Ges. 38. 1884.
- E Hopkins, Yama. In Proc. Am. Or. Soc. 1891.
- Oh. Lanman, The Namuci-Myths. In the J. R. A. Soc. of Bengal. 58, 1889.
- Macdonell, Mythological Studies. In J. R. A. Soc. 1893.
- J. Muir, Yama. In J. R. A. Soc. Vol. I. Lond. 1865.
- Myriantheus, Die Agvins. Munchen 1876.
- Nève, Le mythe des Ribhavas. Paris 1847.
- Obry, Jéhava et Agni. Amiens 1869 -70.
- H. Oldenberg, Savitar. In Z. d. d. m. H. 51, 1897.
- Perry, Indra in the Rigveda. In the J. Am. Or. Soc. vol. XI. 1885.
- Renel, Agvins et Dioscures. Paris 1896.
- Rivett-Carnace, The Snake Symbol in connection with the worship of Siva in India. In the J. R. A. Soc. of Bengal. 48. 1879.
- Roth, Die höchsten Götter. In Z. d. d. m. Ges. 6. 1852.
- Roth, Ueber den Soma. In Z. d. d. m. Ges. 35.
- Roth. Die Sage von Dschemschid. In Z.d.d.m. Ges. 4. 1850.
- Schermann, Philosoph. Hymnen. Strassb. 1887.

Siecke, Liebesgeschichte des Himmels Strassb. 1892. Streiter, De Sunahsepo. Berol. 1861.

Wallis. Cosmology of the Rigveda. London 1887. Windischmann, Über den Somacultus. Abh. d. Münch. Akad. IV. 1846.

Winternitz, Der Sarpabali. Mitth. Anthrop. Ges. Wien 1888.

To supply one of the wants I have written this short Indian Mythology according to the Mbh. I have looked upon the matter with the eye of an historian, and not with that of a philosopher. Consequently I have avoided all reasoning and philosophising. On the whole it has been my endeavour to make the exposition as objective as possible by always appealing to the words of the text itself and, so to say, let it speak for itself.

My view of the Indian M., it will be seen, has principally been ethnographical-historical.

I have translated the text as literally as possible for the benefit of young scholars, only in a few places availing myself of Roy's more free rendering of it.

In order not to be influenced by the opinions and views of others, but to be quite independent, I have, while writing this book, not made use of any of the treatises mentioned above.

To get at the underlying meaning of the myths I have laid much stress upon the names, these, assumedly, indicating their meaning. And it is a matter of course that I, in the quality of an historian, have followed the system or classification of the text.

The reader may perhaps wonder at not finding anything about Ganeca and Trimurti. The reason is

that these mythological figures must be considered modern conceptions, Ganeça, the late Prof. Sørensen told me, only occurring twice in the MBh, and the word Trimurti not at all.

The three gods Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Çiva, are certainly sometimes mentioned jointly, either at the head of other divinities, or in conjunction with these, but by themselves only in III,16834 (see above p. 111) still without being designated as a trinity. It is not until the time of Kālidāsa that we find the word Trimūrti.

My best thanks are due to Dr. Dines Andersen for his help in carrying this book through the press.

Copenhagen, 13 December 1902.

V. Fausboll.

#### ABBREVIATIONS.

- B R. = Böhtlingk & Roth. Sanskrit Wörterbuch. 1—7.
   St. Petersburg. 1852—1875.
- Fire Forst. Fire Forstudier til en Fremstilling af den indiske Mythologi efter Mahābhārata. Kjøbenhavn 1897.
- Grassmann Grassmann's Wörterbuch zum Rig-Veda. Leipzig 1873.
- Hariv. -- Harivainça (Mahabh. vol. 4).
- Lassen Chr. Lassen, Anthologia Sanskrita. Bonnac 1868.
- M., MBh., Mahäbh. The Mahabharata. Calcutta. Vol. I-IV. 1834-39.
- Morier Williams = Sanskrit-English Dictionary. London 1872.
- Pitri, Pitri = Pitr.
- R., Ram. = Ramayanain. 1-2. Bombay. Çake 1810.
- Rsi, Rishi = Rsi.
- Roy = The Mahabharata. Translated into English Prose.

  Published by Protap Chandra Roy. 1—18 Parva.

  Calcutta 1884—1894.
- Wilson H. H. Wilson's Sanskrit Dictionary, or his Vishnu Purāna.
- Xatri = Kşatr, Kshatriya.

#### CORRIGENDA.

- Page 1 line 18 read: towards the Sura's.
  - 2 line 10 read; dharma's.
  - 2 line 12 read: husband.
  - line 4 from the bottom read: feeling.
  - line 2 fr. the b. read: quarrelled.
  - 27 line 9 read: Asuras.
  - 28 line 17 instead of "then" rend: there o: (for the purpose).
  - 36 line 5 fr. the h. read: Raxanisi caitani.
  - b6 line 2 fr. the b. rend: Vivasvat.
  - 58 line 1--2 read: between a creation and a dissolution.
  - 64 line I fr. the b. read: yac.
  - 101 line 21 read: gold coins.
  - 102 line 15 read; were,
  - 118 line 2 read: Vedāir.
  - - 119 lino 6 fr. the b. read: Kantabhan.
  - 121 line 6 fr. the b. read: has.
  - 128 line 13 insert within the brackets: I,4141 and Indralokagamana by Bopp pc 31 v. 38.
  - 128 line 10 fr. the b. read: beautiful.
  - 136 line 1 read: called.
  - 180 at the top read: Vidyadham, line I read six.
  - 183 line 5 read: -Chief,

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SARRAS.

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	Trager is Alara Roog Higher	

#### XXXX

0' 1 1 1 1 1 1	Pug
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He is the mighty ruler and is called Içana,	
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#### I. THE ASURA'S.

Asura is the common name for all the antagonists of the Sura's. They consist of several classes, viz.: Dāitya's, Dānava's, Dasyu's, Kūlakañja's, Kāleyya's, Khalin's, Nūga's, Nivūta-Kavaca's, Pūuloma's, Piçūca's and Rūxasa's.

Of these the most frequently mentioned are the Dāitya's, the Dāuava's and the Raxasa's. The Piçāca's often combined with the Rāxasa's, are spoken of (VI,3854) side by side with Māgadha's and Kāliāga's, which seems to prove them to be the original people of the country (the Aborigines). The same is perhaps the case as regards some of the others, f. i. the Nāga's, as there is even now still to be found a people of this name in the mountains of Bengal; compare below.

The Yaxa's with their king Kuvera were originally also Asura's, but seem to have made friendly advances to the Sura's and to have been welcomed by them and received into their midst; see below.

The Asura's were the offspring of 13 of Daxa prajāpati's daughters and Kaçyapa prajāpati (Rām. III p. 470,11: 8 daughters).

According to Rām. Daxa had 60 daughters, and acc. to M. I,2510: 18, acc. to IX,3018: 27, acc. to XII,7597: 50.

Tasya pürvam ajāyanta daça tisraç ca Bharata prajāpater duhītaras, tāsām jyeṣṭhābhavat Ditih, Sarvadharmaviçeṣajāah, puṇyakīrtir mahāyaçāh Mārīcah Kāçyapas tāta, sarvāsām abhavat patih. XII,7587.

o: To him were first born 13 daughters, of these Diti was the eldest. The in all dharmas well versed, famous and most honourable Kaçyapa, Marici's son, became the husbond of them all.

Sarve Daxayanîputtrah Prajapatya mahabalah XII,8271.

o: All the mighty sons of Daxa's daughter and K. Prajapati.

Diti was Daxa's eldest daughter (XII,7787), her sons were called Daitya's, Danu's Danava's, Kaçyapa's sons by Aditi Āditya's (Deva's or Sura's) which is not only used as the common name for the Sura's, but also as the denomination of a single class of them. The Āditya's were the younger half-brothers of the Asura's.

Bhrātīnām nasti sāubhrūtram ye 'py-ekasya pituh sutuh rājyahetor vivāditāh Kaçyapasya Surāsurah XIII,556.

o: Between brothers there is not (always) good brotherly feelings, they who were begotten of one and the same father quarelled for sovereignty's sake (to wit) Kacyapa's (sons), the Sura's and the Asura's. Idan tu çrüyate Partha
yuddhe devāsure purā:
Asurā bhrātaro jyeṣṭhā
Devāç câpi yavīyasah. XII,1184; cfr. Rām.
VII,11, 16. Vṛhadār. Upanishad, brāhm. 3.

o: But this is told, o Pṛthā's son,

(to have been so) in the battle between the D. and
the Asura's of yore:
the Asura's (were) the elder brothers
and the Deva's the younger.

The Asura's have their strongholds and haunts in mountain caves. In the bowels of the earth do they dwell in the region of Patāla where they have several large cities: Hiranya-pura (V,2507. VII.1997, III,12197), Pragjyotişa (V,1887. 4408). Nirmocana (V,1890). Further we find them in the sea where bound they were delivered into Varuna's keeping. But also in Heaven they have three fastnesses, one of iron, one of silver, and one of gold, from where they attack the Triloka, the three worlds (VII,9555—XIII,7482. VIII,1402 1421. Cp. below and Fire Forstudier p. 40). Hence, however, they were thrust down to earth (I,2482).

All this appears from the following passages:

Sa kadācit samudrānte kasminçcid girigahvare Valim Vāirocanim Vajrī dadarçõpasasarpa ca. XII,8899 o: Once, on the seashore, in a mountain cave saw Indra Vali Virocana's son and drew nigh unto him.

Bhūmim kecit praviviçuh parvatān apare tathā apare jagmur ākāçam apare 'mbhas samāviçan. XII,6180. I,1186.

o: Some entered the earth, and others (disappeared) in the mountains, still others ascended into the air, others again plunged into the water.

Hiranyapuram ity-eva
khyātam puravaram mahat
Dāntyānām Dānavanam ca
māyāçatavicarinam
analpena prayatnena
nirmitam Viçvakarmana
Mayena manasā sṛṣṭam
Pātala-talam agritam V,2567. VII,1997.

o: Hiranyapura so called
the great remarkable city
that belongs to the Dāitya's and the Dānava's
who practise hundreds of kinds of magic
(this town) that was built with much labour
by Viçvakarman
and devised by Maya
lies in the Pātāla district.

Tato mahīm lavanajalan ca sāgaram mahāsurāh praviviçur arditāh surāih I,1186: III,8797. 12065. 12065.

o: Thereupon the earth and the ocean with the salt water the great Asura's entered pressed by the Sura's. Evam uktas tato Dharmo
niyogāt Parameṣṭhinah
Varuṇāya dadāu sarvān
baddhvā Dāiteya-Dānavān.
Tān baddhvā Dharmapāçāiç ca
svāiç ca pāçāir Jaleçvarah
Varuṇah sāgare yatto
nityam raxati Dānavān V.4803.

o: Thus accosted then Dharma
at the command of the most High
delivered to Varuna all
Dāitya's and Dānava's after having bound them.
And having bound them with Dharma's nooses
and with his own bonds
watches for ever Varuna, the Lord of the waters,
carefully the Dāitya's and the Danava's in the
ocean.

Samudram axam asrjan Dānavālayam uttamam. VIII,1476. III,12079.

o: They made an axis of the ocean that excellent abode of the Daitya's.

They are described as follows: they are very powerfull, in battle they uproot trees and hurl the tops of mountains against their enemies.

Atha Dāityabalād ghoran nişpapāta mahābalah Dānavo Mahişo nāma pragrhya vipulam girim. Te tam ghanāir ivādityam drṣṭvā samparivāritam tam udyatagirim rājan

vyadravanta divānkasah Atliahhidrutya Mahişo devāmç cixepa tam girim. III,14598.

o: Thereupon out of the dreadful army of the Dāitya's the mighty Dānava Mahişa by name leapt forth after having seized a great mountain, seeing him like the sun surounded by thick clouds and with an uplifted mountain, o king, the inhabitants of heaven fled in all directions. There upon Mahişa rushed forward and hurled that mountain against the Gods.

Athâsya çailaçikharam Keçî kruddho vyavaşşjat III,14252, XII,8290.

o: Upon which Keçin wrathful cast a rock top against him.

Te pragrhya mahaghoran
parvatan parighan druman
vyaxobhayanta salilam
utthitam çatayojanam
Abhyadravanta devāms te
sahasrāni daçāiva hi XIII.7288, XII,8280.

o: Taking enormous mountains
and (using) trees as clubs
they troubled the water
which instantly rose a hundred yojana's into the air,
whereupon they rushed against the gods
(numbering) ten thousand.

They are skilled in sorcery and magic power, especially do they understand transforming themselves into all sorts of shapes and making themselves invisible, and they frighten people with their awful roaring.

Tato Nivātakavacā mām ayudhyanta māyayā etc. III,19181.

 Hereafter the Nivātakavaca's strove against me with magic arts.

Tathā tāu bhṛçasamkruddhāu rāxasendrāu mahābalāu nirviçeṣam ayudhyetām māyābhir itaretarani etc. VII,1102. XII.10117.

o: Thus those two very wrathful Rāxasa-princes, the mighty ones, fought blindly against each other with sorcery.

Gacohadhvam sarşigandharva yatrûsau viçvarüpadlırk (o: Vrtra) V,201.

o: Go ye together with ṛṣi's and gandharva's thence where you (Vṛtra) who assumes all shapes (dwells).

Vartamāne tathāyuddhe
Nivātakavacāntake
nāpacyam sahasā sarvān
Dānavān māyayā vṛtūn
Adreyamānās te Dāityā
yodhayanti sma māyayā,
adreyenāstravīryena
tān apy-aham ayodhayam etc. III,12161.

o: Whilst thus the battle raged whose object was to destroy the Nivātakavaca's, on a sudden I could not see

all the Dānava's who were hidden by magic, those Dāitya's who had become invisible warred with sorcery, with invisible armed power I also fought them.

Āmānuşam atho nādam sa mumoca mahāsurah XII,10149.

Jahi Bhīşmam raņe Rāma garjantam Asuram yathā V,7081.

As Asura's are named the following beside many others (see I,2525 foll.);

Anuhrada	Triçiras	Madhu	Virocana
Ilvala	Damça	Maya	Vivindya
Upasunda	Dhundhu	Mahişa	Vîra
Uçanas '	Namuci	Mura	Vytra
Kamalāxa	Naraka	Yätudhana	Vṛṣaparvan
Kālanemi	Nahuşa	Vala	Vogavat
Kirmira	Nikumbha	Vali	Çamvara
Keçin	Pāka	Vātāpi	Çukra,
Kāitava	Puloman	Vixava	Samhläda
Jambha	Prahrāda	Vidyunmāla	Sālva
Tāraka	Mañki	Vipracitti	Sunda
Tārakāxa	Mada	Virūpāxa	Hiranyakaçipu
Tālajamgha			

Some of these names may be sanskritic, some aboriginal.

Of the Asura's we mark separately the following Classes:

## A. As Dāitya's are mentioned:

Ilvala Vātāpi
Upasunda Vipracitti
Tāraka Vegavat
Triçiras Çukra
Naraka Sālva
Prahlāda Sunda

## B. As Dānava's:

Kāitava Madhu Naraka Maya Prahrāda Vivindya

But some of the Danava's and the Daitya's are to be found, however, as may be seen above, under the commoner name of Asura's.

Rāhu (I.1161) is the Dānava most frequently mentioned. He is also called Svarbhānu (V,8816. XIII,7292), and it is said of him that he strives to devour both sun and moon.

The myth of Rāhu is connected with the story of the Churning of the Ocean, and the strife of the Deva's and the Asura's concerning the Amrta and the Sovereignty of the world, which I quote here in the form it has in I,1108—1188:

Jvalantam acalam Merum tejorāçim anuttamam āxipantam prabhām bhānoh svaçrāgāih kāncanojjvalāih Kanakābharaṇam citram devagandharvasevitam aprameyam anādhṛṣyam adharmabahulāir janaih

Vyālāir ācaritam ghorāir divyāusadhividīpitam nākam āvrtya tisthantam ucchrayena mahāgirim Agamyam manasâpy-anyāir nadīvrxasamanvitam nānāpatagasanghāic ca nāditam sumanoharāih — Tasya çrāgam upāruhya bahuratnācitam cubham anantakalpam udviddham Surāh sarve mahāujasah Te mantrayitum ārabdhās tatrāsīnā divaukasah Amrtaya samagamya taponiyamasamyutah, Tatra Narayano devo Brahmanam idam abravit: cintayatsu Suresy-ovam mantrayatsu oa sarvaçah Devāir Asurasanghāic ca mathyatām kalaçodadhih, bhavişyaty-Amrtam tatra mathyamane mahodadhāu, Sarvāusadhīh samāvāpya sarvaratnāni câiva ha mathnadhvam udadhim Devā. vetsyadhvam Amrtam tatah. Tato 'bhraçikharākārāir giriçrügāir alaūkrtam Mandaram parvatavaram latājālasamākulam

nānā vihagasa üghustam nānādamstrisamakulam kinnarāir Apsarobhic ca Devāir api ca sevitam Ekādaçasahasrāni vojanānām samucchritam adho bhūmeh sahasresu tāvatsv-eva pratisthitam. Tam uddhartum acaktā vāi sarve Devaganās tadā Vişnum asınam abhyetya Brahmanam cêdam abruvan: Bhavantay atra kurvatam vuddhim näigreyasīm param Mandaroddharane yatnah krivatan ca hitaya nab. Tathêti câbravîd Vişnur Brahmanā saha Bhargava acodnyad ameyatmā phanindram padmalocanalı. Tato 'nantah samutthāya Brahmanā paricoditah Nārāyaņena capy-uktas tasmin karmani viryavān Atha parvatarājānam tam Ananto mahabalah ujjahara balad brahman savanam savanāukasam. Tatas tena Surāh sārdham samudram upatasthire, tam ücur Amrtasyârthe nirmathisyāmahe jalam.

12 KÜRMA.

Apām patir athôvaca: mamapy-amco bhavet tatah sodhāsmi vipulam mardam Mandarabhramanād iti. Ucuç ca Kürmarajanam akupāre Surāsurāh: adhisthanam girer asya bhavān bhavitum arhati. Kürmena tu tathêty-uktvā prstham asya samarpitam, tam cailam tasya prethastham yantren-Endro nyapidayat. Manthanam Mandaram kriva tatha netrañ ca Vasukim Devà mathitum arabdhah samudram nidhim ambhasam, Amrtarthe pura brahmanis tathaiv-Asura-Danavah ekamantam upaçlişta nagarajo mahasurah. Vibudhāh sahitāh sarve yatah puccham tatah sthitäh Ananto bhagavăn devo yato Nārāyaņas tatah cira utxipya nāgasya punah punar avāxipat. Väsuker atha nägasya sahasā xipyatah Surāih sadhūmāh sārciso vātā nispetur asakrn mukhāt, · To dhumasanghah sambhuta meghasañghāh savidyutah

abhyavarşan Suraganan cramasantāpakarsitān. Tasmāc ca girikūtāgrāt pracyutāh puspavrstavah Surāsuragaņan sarvān samantāt samavākiran, Babhūvātra mahānādo mahāmegharavopamah udadher mathyamānasya Mandarena Surāsurāih, Tatra nănăjalacară vinispista mahadrina vilayam samupajagmuh cataço lavanambhasi, Varunani ca bhūtani vividhani mahidharah Patalatalavāsīni vilayam samupanayat, Tasmiñ ca bhramyamane 'drau sanglırşyantah parasparam nyapatan patagopetah parvatāgrān mahādrumāh, Tesām sangharşajaç câgnir arcirbhih prajvalen muhuh vidyudbhir iva nīlābhram āvrnon Mandaram girim, Dadāha kunjarāms tatra simhāme câiva vinirgatān vigatāsūni sarvāņi sattvāni vividhāni ca. Tam Agnim Amaraçresthah pradahantam itas tatah

vāriņā meghajen-Ēudrah çamayam asa sarvaçah, Tato nānāvidhas tatra susruvuh sägarämbhasi mahādrumānām niryāsa bahavaç câuşadhīrasāh, Teşām Amrtavīryānām rasānam payasâiva ca amaratvam Surā jagmuh kāncanasya ca nisravat, Tatas tasya samudrasya tajjātam udakam payah rasottamair vimicrañ ca tatah xīrad abhūd ghrtam. Tato Brahmanam asinam deva varadam abruvan: çrantah sına sublırçam Brahman nôdbhavaty-Amrtañ ca tat Vinā Narayanam devam sarve 'nye Doya-Danavah cirārabdham idan capı sägarasyâpı manthanam. Tato Nārāyanam devam Brahmā vacanam abravīt: vidhatsvāisām balam Vișno bhavān atra parāyanam. Balam dadāmi sarvesām karmâitad ye samāsthitāh xobhyatām kalaçah sarvāir Mandarah parivartyatām, Nārāyaņavacah crutvā balinas te mahodadheh

tat payah sahitā bhūyaç cakrire bhrçam ākulam. Tatalı çatasahasrāmçur mathyamānāt tu sāgarāt prasannātmā samutpannah Somah cītāmcur ujjvalah Crīr anantaram utpannā ghrtat pandaravasinī Surā devī samutpannā Turagah pāndaras tathā Kāustubhas tu manir divya utpanno ghṛtasambhavah marīcivikacah crīman Näräyana urogatah, Çrīh Surā câiva Somaç ca Turagac ca manojavah yato devās tato yagmur ādityapatham āçritāh, Dhanvantaris tato devo vapusmān udatisthata çvetam kamandalum bibhrad Amrtam yatra tişthati. Etad atvadbhutam drstvā Dänavänäm samutthitah Amrtarthe mahan nado mamêdam iti jalpatām, Cvetāir dantāic caturbhis tu mahākāyas tatah param Āirāvano mahānāgo 'bhavad Vajrabhrta dhrtah, Atinirmathanād eva Kālakūtas tathaparah

jagad ävrtya sahasā sadhumo 'gnir iva jvalan. Trāilokyam mohitam yasya gandham āghrāya tadvişain prāgrasal lokaraxārtham Brahmano yacanāc Chivah Dadhāra bhagavān kanthe mantramurtir mahecvarah, tadā prabhrti devas tu Nīlakaņtha iti grutih. Etat tad adbhutam drstvā nii āça Dānavāli sthitāh Amriarthe ca Laxmyarthe mahantan vairam asthitah. Tato Narayano Māyam mohinim samupagritah strīrūpam adbhutam krtva Dānavan abhisaniçritah, Tatas tad Amrtain tasyai dudus te müdhacetasah striyān Dānava-Dāiteyah sarve tadgatamānasāh. Athâyaranamukhyām nānāpraharaņāni ca pragrhyabhyadravan Devan sahıtā Dāitya-Dānavāh, Tatas tad Amrtam devo Vışnur ādāya vīryavān jahāra Dānavendrebhyo Narena sahitah prabhuh. Tato Devaganāh sarve papus tad Amrtam tadā

RAIU, 17

Visnoh sakā cat samprapya sambhrame tumule sati. Tatah pivatsu tat kālam Devesy-Amrtam ipsitam Rahur vibudharupena Dānavah prāpivat tadā, Tasya kantham anuprapte Dānavasvâmrte tadā ākhyātain candrasūryābhyām Surānām hitakāmyaya. Tato bhagayata tasya çirah chinnam alankıtan oakrayudhena cakrena pivato 'mrtam ojasa, Tac chailacragapratimam Danavasya ciro mahat cakracolinnam kham utpatya nanadâtibhayañkaram, Tat kabandham papätäsya visphurad dharanitale saparvatavanadvīpām Daitvasvākampayan mahīm. Tato vairavinirbandhah krto Rāhumukhena vāi çãçvatac candrasüryābhyām grasaty-adyâpi câiva tāu. Vihaya bliagavamç câpi strīrūpam atulam Harih nānāpraharaņāir bhīmāir Danavān samakampayat. Tatah pravrttah samgrāmah samīpe lavaņāmbhasah

Surānam Asuruņan ca sarvaghorataro mahau, Prāsaç oa vipulās tixņa nyapatanta sahasraçah tomaraç ca sutixnagrah çastrani vividhani ca, Tato 'surāc cakrabhinnā vamanto rudhiram bahu asıçaktigadārugņa nipetur dharanitale, Chinnani patticaic câiva çıramsi yudhı darunaih taptakāncanacitraņi mpetur anicain tada, Rudhirenânuliptangn nihatac ca mahasurah adrīnam iya kūtani dhaturaktanı cerate, Hahakarah samabhayat tatra tatra sahasracah anvonyam chindatam çastraır aditye lohitayati, Parighair ayasais tixnāili sannıkarşe ca muştibhih nighnatam samare 'nyonyam cabdo divam ivâsprçat, Chindhi bhindhi pradhava tvam pātayābhisarêti ca vyacrūyanta mahāghorah çabdās tatra samantatah, Evam sutumule yuddhe vartamāne mahābhaye

Nara-Nārāyaņāu devau samājagmatur ahavam. Tatra divyam dhanur dṛṣtvā Narasya bhagavan api cintayam āsa tac cakram Visnur Dānavasūdanam Tato 'mbarāc cintitamātram āgatam mahāprabham cakram amitratāpanam vibhāvasos tulyam akunthamandalam Sudarçanam samyati bhîmadarçanam Tadāgatam jvalitahutāganaprabham bhayankaram karikarayahur acyutah mumoca vai pravalavad ugravegavan mahaprabham paranagarayadaranam, Dahat kvacij jvalana ivavalelihat prasahya tan Asuraganan nyakrntata praveritani viyati muhuh xitan tatha papau rane rudhiram atho Picacavat. Tathasurā giribhir adinacetaso muhur muhuh Suraganamardayams tada mahabala vigalitameghavarcasah sahasrago gaganam abhiprapadya ha Athâmbarād bhayajananāh prapedire sapādapā bahuvidhamegharūpiņah mahädrayah parigalitagrasanavah parasparam drutam abhihatya sasvanah Tato mahī pravicalitā sakānanā mahādripātābhihatā samantatah parasparam bhṛçam abhigarjatām muhūranājire bhṛçam abhisampravartite. Naras tato varakanakāgrabhūşaņāir mahesubbir gaganapatham samāyrnot

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vidārayan giriçikharaņi patribhir mahābhaye 'suragaņavigrahe tada.
Tato mahīm lavaņajalnā ca sagaram mahāsurāh praviviçur arditah surāih viyadgatam jvalitahutāçanaprabham Sudarçanam parikupitam niçamya te.
Tatah Surāir vijayam avāpya Mandarah svam eva deçam gamitah supūjitah vinādya kham divam api cāiva sarvaças tato gatāh saliladharā yathāgatam.
Tato 'mṛtam sunihitam eva cakrire Surāh param mudam abhigamya puṣkalam dadau ca tam nidhim Āmṛtasya raxitum kirīţine Balabhid athāmaraih saha.

Amrtamanthanam samaptam.

o: Sauti said, "There is a mountain named Moru of blazing appearance, and looking like a huge heap of effulgence. The rays of the sun falling on its peaks of golden lustre are dispersed by them. Abounding with gold and of variegated tints, that mountain is the haunt of the gods and the Gandharvas. It is immeasurable, and unapproachable by men of manifold sins. Dreadful beasts of prey inhabit its breast, and it is illuminated with divine herbs of healing virtus. It standeth kissing the heavens by its height and is the first of mountains. Ordinary people cannot so much as think of ascending it. It is graced with trees and streams and resoundeth with the charming melody of winged chours. Standing high for infinite ages, upon it once all the mighty celestials sat them down and held a conclave. They came in quest of amrita, they who had practiced penances and observed the rules according to the ordinance. Seeing

the celestial assembly in anxious consultation, Narayana said to Brahma, 'Do thou churn the Ocean with the Suras (gods) and the Asuras. By doing so, amrita shall be obtained together with all drugs and all gems. O ye gods, churn ye the Ocean, and ye shall discover amrita.'"

Sauti said, "There is a mountain of name Mandara adorned with peaks like those of the clouds. It is the hest of mountains, and is covered all over with intertwining herbs. There no end of birds pour forth their melody, and there beasts of prey roam about. The gods, the Apsaras, and the Kinnaras visit the place. Upwards it riseth eleven thousand yojanas, and descendeth downwards as much. The gods failed to tear it up and they came to Vishnu and Brahma who were sitting, and said, 'devise ye some efficient scheme. Consider, ye gods, how Mandara may be upraised for our good."

Sauti continued, "And Vishnu, with Brahma, assented to it, O son of Bhrigu! And the lotus-eyed one laid the hard task on the mighty Ananta, the prince of Snakes. And the mighty Ananta, directed thereto both by Brahma and Narayana, O Brahmana, upraised that mountain with the woods thereon and with the dwellers of those woods. And the gods came to the shore of the Ocean with Ananta, and addressed the Ocean saying. 'O Ocean, we have come to churn thy waters for obtaining nectar'. And the Ocean replied, 'be it so, as I am to have a share of the nectar. I am able to bear the agitation of my waters by the mountain.' And the gods went to the king of the tortoises and said to him. 'O Tortoise-

king, thou shalt have to hold the mountain on thy back.' The tortoise-king agreed, and Indra placed the mountain on the former's back by means of instruments.

"And the gods and the Asuras made Mandara their churning staff and Vasuki the cord, and set about churning the main for amrita. The Asuras held Vasuki by the hood and the gods by the tail. And Ananta who was for Narayana, at intervals raised the Snake's hood and suddenly lowered it. And in consequence of the friction he received at the hands of the gods and the Asuras, black vapours with flames issued out of his mouth which becoming clouds charged with lightning poured down showers to refresh the tired gods. And blossoms beginning to rain on all sides of the gods from the trees on the whirling Mandara, also refreshed them.

"And, O Brahmana, out of the doop then came a tremendous roar, like unto the roar of the clouds at the universal dissolution. Various aquatic animals where crushed by the great mountain, and gave up their being in the salt-waters. And many dwellers of the lower regions and inhabitants of the world of Varuna were killed. From the revolving Mandara, large trees were torn up by the roots, and flying into the air like birds, they fell into the water. And the mutual friction of the trees produced a fire which surrounded the mountain. And the mountain looked like a mass of dark clouds charged with lightning. O Brahmana, the fire increased, and burnt the lions, elephants and other creatures that were on the mountain. And carcasses of no end of ani-

mals floated down the waters. Then Indra extinguished that fire by descending showers.

"O Brahmana, after the churning had gone on for sometime, the gums of various trees and herbs mixed with the waters of the Ocean. And the celestials attained immortality by drinking of the waters mixed with those gums vosted with the properties of amrita, and with the liquid extract of gold. By degrees, the milky water of the agitated deep produced clarified butter by virtue of the gums and juices. But nectar did not rise even then. And the gods appeared before boon-granting Brahmā seated on his seat and said, 'Sir, we are spent, we have not strength left to churn further. Nectar hath not yet arisen. So that now we have no resource save Narayana.'

"Hearing them, Brahma said to Narayana, 'Lord, vouchsafe to grant the gods strength to churn afresh the deep.'

"And Narayana agreeing to grant their various prayers, said, 'O wise ones. I grant ye sufficient strength. Go, insert the mountain and ohurn the waters.'

"Re-equipped with strength, the gods began the churning again. After a while, the mild Moon of a thousand rays emerged from the ocean. Thereafter, Lakshmi dressed in white, and wine, the white steed, and then the celestial gem Kaustuva which graces the breast of Narayana. Lakshmi, wine, and the steed fleet as the mind, all came before the gods of high. Then arose the divine Dhanwantari himself with the white vessel of nectar in his hand. And

seeing him, the Asuras set up a loud cry, saying. 'Ye have taken all, he must be ours.'

"And at length rose the great elephant, Airavata, of huge body and with two pairs of white tusks. And him took the holder of the thunder-bolt. But the churning still went on, so that poison at last appeared, and began to overspread the earth, blazing like a flame mixed with fumes. And at the scent of the fearful Kalakuta, the three worlds were stupefied. And then Mahadeva of the Mantra form, solicited by Brahma, to save the creation swallowed the poison and held it in his throat. And it is said that the god from that time is called Nilakantha (blue-throated). Seeing all these wondrons things, the Asuras were filled with despair, and propared to enter into hostilities with the gods for the possession of Lakshmi and nectar. Thereupon Narayana called his bewitching Maya to his aid, and assuming a ravishing female form, coquetted with the Asuras. And the Daityas, ravished with her charms, lost their reason and unanimously placed the nectar in the hands of that fair woman."

Sauti said: "Then the Daityas and the Danavas with first class armours and various weapons pursued the gods. In the meantime the valiant Lord Vishnu accompanied by Nara took away the nectar in his hands from those mighty Danavas.

"And then all the tribes of the gods during that time of great fright drank the nectar receiving it from Vishnu. And while the gods were drinking that nectar after which they had so much hankered, a Danava named Rahu was drinking it in the guise of a god. And when the nectar had only reached Rahu's throat, the Sun and the Moon (discovered him and) communicated the fact to the gods. And Narayana instantly cut off with his discus the well-adorned head of the Danava who was drinking the nectar without permission. And the huge head of the Danava cut off by the discus and resembling a mountain-peak then rose to the sky and began to utter dreadful cries. And the Danava's headless trunk falling upon the ground and rolling thereon made the Earth tremble with her mountains, forests, and islands. And from that time hath arisen a long-standing quarrel between Rahu's head and the Sun and the Moon. And to this day it swalloweth the Sun and the Moon, (causing the colipses),

"And Narayana quitting his ravishing fomale form, and hurling many torrible weapons at them. made the Danavas tremble. And thus on the shores of the sea of salt-water, commenced the dreadful battle of the gods and the Asuras. And sharp-pointed javelins and lances and various weapons by thousands began to be discharged on all sides. And mangled with the discus and wounded with swords, saktis, and maces, the Asuras in large numbers vomited blood and lay prostrate on the earth. Cut off from the trunks with sharp double edged swords, heads adorned with bright gold fell continually on the field of battle. Their bodies drenched in gore, the great Asuras lay dead everywhere. It seemed as if reddved mountain peaks lay scattered all around. And when the sun rose in his splendour, thousands of warriors striking one another with their weapons,

the sounds 'Alas!' and 'O!' were heard everywhere. The warriors fighting at a distance from one another brought one another down by sharp iron missiles, and those fighting at close quarters slew one another by blows of the fist. And the air was filled with shricks of distress. Everywhere were heard the alarming sounds, 'cut off,' 'pierce,' 'after,' 'hurl down,' 'advance.'

"And when the battle was raging fiercely, Nara and Narayana entered the field. And Narayana sceing the heavenly bow in the hand of Nara, called to his mind his own weapon-the lanava-destroying discus. And lo! the discus, Sudarshana, destroyer of encmies, like to Agni in effulgence, and dreadful in battle, came from the sky as soon as thought of. And when it came, Achynta of florce energy, of arms like the trunk of an elophant, hurled and hurled with great force the weapon, offulgent as flaming fire, dreadful, and of extraordinary lustre, and capable of destroying hostile towns. And that discus blazing like the fire that burneth all things at the end of time, hurled with force from the hands of Narayana, falling constantly everywhere destroyed the Daityas and the Danavas by the thousands. Sometimes it flamed like fire and consumed them all, sometimes it struck them down as it coursed through the sky; and sometimes, falling on earth, like a goblin it drank their life blood.

"And on their side, the Danavas, white as the clouds from which the rain hath been extracted, possessing great strength and bold hearts, ascended the sky and hurling down thousands of mountains con-

tinually harassed the gods. And those dreadful mountains, likes masses of clouds, with their trees and flat tops, falling from the sky, collided with one another and produced a tremendous roar. And when thousands of warriors shouted without intermission on the field of battle and the mountains with the woods thereon began to fall around, the Earth with her forests trembled. Then the divine Nara coming to that dreadful conflict of the Assuras and the Ganas (the followers of Rudra), reducing to dust those rocks by means of his goldheaded arrows covered the heavens with the dust. And discomfitted by the gods, and seeing the furious discus scouring the fields of heaven like a blazing flame, the mighty Danavas entered the bowels of the Earth, while others plunged into the sea of salt waters.

"And having gained the victory, the gods offering due respect to Mandara placed him on his own base. And the nectar-bearing gods making the heavens resound with their shouts, went to their own abodes, And the gods returning to the heavens rejoiced greatly, and the vessel of nectar Indra and the other gods made over to Nara for careful keep." (Roy's Transl.)

From this we see that the Sun and the Moon, from kindness, revealed to the gods that Rāhu was drinking the Amṛta, and that Viṣṇu cut off Rāhu's head which flew up to heaven. whilst his body fell on the earth causing it to tremble.

According to XIII,7293 foll. the penitential brāhmaṇa Atri saves the gods from Rāhu and the Dānava's.

The Rahu myth is often referred to in the Mahabharata, thus in V,ssio: Atra madhye samudrasya kabandhah pratidreyate Svarbhāṇoh sūryakalpasya Soma-Sūryāu jighāṁsatah.

- o: Here in the midst of the ocean the body of Svarbhānu is to be seen in the shape of the sun desiring to destroy the moon and the sun. See further VI,4619. VII,1668, 3767.
- C. Dasyu seems to have been used about an aboriginal people, but has afterwards been degraded to the common name for a robber. Thus we read in V. 858:

Tato rajūām samabhavad yuddham etat tatra jātam varmaçastram dhanuç ca Indrenaitad Dasyu-badhaya karma utpaditam varmaçastram dhanuç ca.

o: Then the war arose between the kings, then armour, arms and bow were invented, by Indra for the destruction of the Dasyu's the work was done: armour, arms and bow.

But in I,1308, 3503. XII,2952 it is used only as the name of a robber.

D. The Naga's or Serpents are also called Sarpa's, so we read in I,797:

Sa tatra Nāgāṁs tān astuvad ebhih çlokaih: Ye Āirāvatarājānah

Sarpāh samitiçobhanāh — cfr. II,360-66 and in many other places.

o: He there praised the Nagas in these cloka's: The Sarpas who have Airavata for their king (and) shine in battle — Still it must be remarked that in VI.246 is written: Sarpā Nāgāç ca, which seems to imply that they have been understood to be two different species. They are designated beside by several other synonymous expressions as pannaga (I,2144, 2126. III,12100), uraga (I,2135), bhujaāga (III,12386. XII,13836), ajagara (III,12890).

They dwell in the bowels of the earth (1,796. 5018. V,35.00) in Nāgaloka, which is endless, aparyanta, crowded with hundreds of different kinds of palaces. houses, towers and pinnacles, anekavidhaprāsādaharmyavalabhineryûha, and strewn with wonderful large and small pleasure-grounds, uccavacakrida ccaryasthanavakirna. The Serpent-world is likewise called Patala (VIII,4683, cfr. V sais) and Niraya (III, 18119). Their principal town is called Bhogavati (V.1017), where Vasuki reigns. They also live in caves, in inaccessible mountainous regions (III,12886) and are even said to be found in the valleys, in Kuruxetra, on the banks of the river Ixumati (I.sos). in the Nuimisa forest on the shores of Gomati (XII,18800), in numbers on the northern banks of the Ganga (1,799), and in the Nisadha (-mountain districts) (VI,246). The most important of them is Qega who lies underneath the earth and supports it (cf. Visnu).

Adhastad dharaṇim yo 'sāu sadā dhārayate nṛpa Çeṣaç ca pannagaçreṣṭhah VII,8456. V,8618.

The Nāga's are thus described: They are possessed of great strength, mahāvīrya, have a big body, mahākāya, they are frightful, ghora, very quick, tarasvin, very violent, mahāvega, and they descend from Surabhī (XII.1888, I.2182). They are provided with

tusks full of poison. damstra, visolvana (1,5018), kalanalavisa (1,5168). They are handsome, take many shapes, and wear showy earrings, surupa, bahurupa, kalmāṣakuṇḍala (1,797, XII.13825). They consist of several races. Of Vāsuki's race some are blue, some red. and some white, dreadful, large-limbed, and possessed of strong poison (1,2145 foll.). Some have 3. others 7, and others again 10 heads etc. (1,2162. V,2622).

Beside the many names of single Naga's that are repeated in I,2142 foll. II,860. V,8625, the following are to be found separately named in the different books:

Aryaka	Taxaka	Vásuki
Arvuda	Dhananjaya	Çakravapin
Açvasena	Dhṛtariṣṭra	<b>Ģ</b> еşн
Karkoţaka	Nahuṣa	Sumukha
Kalapṛṣṭha	Padmanābha	Srutasena
Cıkura	Mani	Svastika
Јауа	Mahajaya	

E. Amongst the Asura's, the Rāxasa's are described as being perfect ogres. They are cannibals, cruel trolls who scent human flesh. They are large and strong, broad-shouldered, hideous in appearance, with flaming red eyes, red beard and hair, a mouth stretching from ear to ear. They have sharp prominent teeth, and a long tongue. Their ears are pointed as spears. They are nightwanderers, the children of darkness, unconquerable at midnight and in the gloaming and shun the light. They practise sorcery, māyā, and transform themselves into many different shapes. They haunt chiefly the woods, live in mountain fastnesses and

in desolate regions. They laugh and rear frightfully. They make obstacles to prevent offerings and penances, and haunt hely places (tirtha). To show this I cite the following passages:

Tatah sa tṛṇam ādāya prahṛṣṭah punar abravīt: anenāhaṁ haniṣyāmi Rāxasaṁ puruṣādakaṁ. I,0202.

 Thereupon he having taken a blade of grass answered joyfully:
 with this will I slay
 the cannibal Raxasa.

Te catuspathanizipto
Jara namūtha Razasi
jagrāha manujavyaghra
mamsaçoņitabhojana, II,716.

o: Those who were cast on the cross-roads seized then a Raxasa-woman by name Jarā who lived on flesh and blood.

Samīpe nagarasyāsya Vako vasati Rāxsasah īço janapadasyāsya purasya ca mahābalah puṣṭo mānuṣamāmsena durbuddhih purusādakah. I.6207.

o: Near that town lives the Rāxasa Vaka reigning over that country and over that city, he the powerful who lives on human flesh, the foolish cannibal.

Tatra teşu çayaneşu Hidimbo nāma Raxasah avidure vanāt tasmāc chālavrxam samāgritah krūro mānusamamsādo mahāvîryaparūkramah pravrdjaladbaracyamah pingaxe darunakṛtih damstrākaralavadanah piçitepsuh xudharditah lambasphik lambajatharo ruktaçmaçruçiroruhah mahavrxagalaskandhah çankukarno vibhişanah virüparüpah -hṛṣto manuşamanisasya mahākāyo mahābalah aghraya manusan gandham bhaginim idam abravit etc. 1 5992. 1871, 2607, VII, 1975, 8004, 8150, 6862, III, 845 16187, XII, 80, II, 86,

o: While they lay thore'
a Rāxasa by name Hidimba,
who had taken refuge under a Qāla-tree
not far from that wood.
a dreadiùl cannibal
of great strength and courage
dark as a thunder cloud
with red eyes, of a frightful appearance,
having a mouth with prominent teeth,
hungering after human flesh,

with red heard and hair,

Neck and shoulders as thick as the trunk of a tree
with spear-shaped ears, terrifying,
deformed ——
Rejoicing over human fiesh,
large-limbed, powerful,
after having scented men
he said this to his sister etc.

Purā samrajyate prācī purā sandhyā pravartate rāudre muhūrte raxānsi prabalāni bhavanty-uta, tvarasva Bhīma mā krīḍa jahi Raxo vibhīṣaṇam pura vikurute māyān bhujayoh saram arpaya I,0028.

o: The cast is reddening, the morning twilight is about to set in. Rakshasa's become stronger by break of day. Therefore hasten, O Bhīma! Play not (with thy victim), but slay the terrible Rakshasa soon. During the two twilights Rakshasa's always put forth their powers of deception. Use all the strength of thy arms. (Roy.)

Rātrāu niçīthe svābhīle
gate 'rdhasamaye nṛpa
pracāre puruṣādānām
Raxasām ghorakarmaṇām
tad vanam tāpasā nityam
gopāç ca vanacāriṇah
dūrāt pariharanti sma
puruṣādabhayāt kila etc. III,288. VII,7998.

o: O king, just after the dreadful hour of midnight when all nature is asleep, when man-cating Rāxasas of terrible deeds begin to wander, the ascetics and the cow-herds and other rangers of the forest used to shun the woods of Kāmyaka and fly to a distance for fear of cannibals. (Roy.)

Athapçyat sa udaye bhāskaram bhakaradyutih soman caiva mahābhāgaih viçamanam divākaram, amāvasyām pravṛttayām muhūrte rāudra ova tu devasuran ca samgramam so 'paçyad udayo girau, lohitaiç ca ghanāir yuktam pūrvām sandhyam Çatakratuh apaçyal lohitodan ca bhagavān Varuņālayam III, 14267.

o: And that god adorned with sun-like offulgence, then perceived the Sun rising on the Udaya hill, and the great Soma (Moon) gliding into the Sun. It being the time of the new Moon, he of a hundred sacrifices, at that Rāudra moment, observed the gods and Asuras fighting on the Sunrise-hill. And he saw that the morning twilight was tinged with red clouds. And he also saw that the abode of Varuna had become blooded. (Roy.)

Rātrāu hi Rāxasā bhūyo b havanty-amitavikramāh balavantah sudurdharṣāh çūrā vikrāntayodhinah VII,7862, 7028. 5: For at night the Rāxasa's become immensely strong mighty unconquerable heroes, brave warriors.

Tam dṛṣṭvā mātur udarāc cyutam ādityavarcasam tad Raxo bhasmasād bhūtam papata parimucya tām I,200.

a: And the Rāxasa perceiving the infant drop from the mother's womb, shining like the sun, quitted his grasp of the woman and fell down and was instantly converted into ashes. (Roy.)

> Jara namâsmi bhadrain te Raxasī kamarūpinī II,729. III,367.

o: I am Jara by name, Hail!

a Raxasa-women who can assume all shapes.

Giridurgeşu ca sadā deçeşu vişameşu ca vasanti Rāxasā rāudrās 111,1009.

o: In mountain fastnesses and in rough regions live the cruel Raxasa's.

> Katham utsrjya Väidehīm vane Rāxasasevite iti tam bhrātaram drstvā prāpto 'sîti vyagarhayat III,18058.

a: How couldst thou forsake Vāidehī in a forest infested by Rāxasa's and come here, thus did he blame his brother, when he saw him.

Ghoram rūpam atho krtva Bhīmasenam abhasata -- -Evam uktvā tato Bhīmam antardhānam gatas tada --Bhīmas tu samare rājan adreve rāxase tadā ākāçam pūrayām āsa caraih sannatapürvabhih Sa badhyamāno Bhīmena nimesād ratham āsthitah jagāma dharaniñ câiya xudrah kham sahasagamat ucca vacani rūpaņi cakara subahuni ca anur vrhat musah sthulo nadam muñcann ivâmbudah etc. VII, web.

Vapām vilumpanti hasanti Raxasah prakarşamanah kunapāny-anekaçah VII, 1976. 111, 1992.

Svadham pūjan ca Raxobhir Janasthāne praņāçitām prādān nihatya Raxamsi pitrdevebhya īçvarah, VII,2211.
Raxogaņavikīrņani tīrthāny-etāni Bhārata III,8260.

o: Those holy places, o Bhārata, are haunted by flocks of Rāxasa's.

Rāxāmsi câitani caranti putra rūpeņa tenādbhutadarçanena atulyavīryāny-abhirūpavanti vighnam sadā tapasaç cintayanti Surūparūpāņi ca tāni tāta pralobhayante vividhāir upayāih sukhāc ca lokāc ca nipātayanti tāny-ugrarūpāņi munīn vanesu etc. III,10070.

o: Those are, o son! Rakshas. They walk about in that wonderfully beautiful form. Their strength is unrivalled and their beauty great. And they always meditate obstruction to the practice of penances. And, O my boy, they assume lovely forms, and try to allure by diverse means. And those fierce beings hurled the saints, the dwellers of the woods, from blessed regions (won by their pious deeds). (Roy.)

As a kind of Raxasa's arc named (II, w) Kinnara's. Scattered about in different places of the Mahabharata we find the following names of Raxasa's:

Alamyuşa	Jara	Vaka
Alayudha	Düşana	Vāli
Kirmira	Maya	Vibhīşana
Kumbhakarna	Mahişa	Çumvara
Khara	Mahendra	Çürpanakha
Ghatotkaca	Mārīca	Hidimba
Jatāsura	Rāvana	

Of these names some are perhaps aboriginal words, others perhaps are sanskritic, or sanskriticised.

F. Piçāca's are often mentioned in combination with the Rūxasa's (VII,1975, 2104. XII,10222) and are even sometimes identified with these. They are like the Rūxasa's hideous, repellent and blood thirsty.

I quote the following proofs:

Pivanti căçnanti ca yatra dur drçāh

Piçācasaāghāç ca nadanti bhairavāh VII,1979.

L.8198, 1181.

o: Where disgusting Picaca's drink and eat (out of the river of blood and corpses) and roar frightfully.

Aşţacakrasamāyuktam
asthāya pravaram ratham
turangavadanāir yuktam
Piçācāir ghoradarçanāih VII,7400. III,16136.
3: After having mounted the excellent

a: After having mounted the excellent carriage which was furnished with 8 wheels and harnessed (to it) Picaca's of frightful appearance having horses' faces.

Tatradreyanta Raxamsi
Piçacaç ca prthagbidhah
khādanto naramamsāni
pivantah coņitāni ca
Karālāh pingalāç caiva
cailadantā rajasvalāh etc. X,462.

o: There were seen several kinds of Râxasa's and Pīçāca's eating human flesh and drinking blood, They had prominent teeth and were red, they had teeth as hard as stone and were dirty.

We have seen from what I have stated above, that the Asura's and the Sura's were half-brothers, and

that the Asura's were the elder, wherefore Asura in the Rigveda means God.

In the Mahābhārata there is often mentioned a Strife between the half-brothers:

Bhrātṣṇām nasti saubhrātram ye 'py-ekasya pituh sutāh rājyahetor vivaditah Kaçyapasya Surāsurāh XIII,556. Cfr. above.

This quarrel appears first to have arisen after they in harmony had churned the sea (I,1113, VIII,2983; cfr. Rāmāyaṇa, see "Fire Forstudier" p. 45). For then came forth, amongst other things the Amrta, the Drink of immortality, ambrosia, and that they both wanted. So the warfare began between the Asura's and the Sura's that became a struggle for the mastery of the three worlds (Triloka), the imperial power, a battle that lasted thousands of years and transformed the earth to an ocean of blood. Ofr. below under Sura's.

Teṣām api Çrî-nimittam mahān āsīt samucchrayah, yuddham varṣasahasrāṇi dvātrimçad abhavat kila, Ekārṇavām mahīm kṛtvā rudhireṇa pariplutam jaghnur Dāityāms tathā Devās Tridivam câbhilebhire XII,1186.

between them became for Qii's sake great enmity
a war began which lasted
32,000 years.
After having converted the earth

to a sea of blood the Deva's killed the Duitya's and won Heaven.

Nityānuṣaktavairā hi bhrātaro Deva-Dānavāh V, 1681. Surāṇām Asurāṇāū ca samajāyata vāi mithah āiçvaryani prati sanigharṣas Trailokye sacaracare I.3187. IX,1858. XIII,556.

o: Of Sura's and Asura's
there was certainly an encounter
between them
to gain the sway of the three worlds
with all its moveable and immoveable things.

It is said that assuredly were the Asura's originally just, good and charitable, knew the Dharma and sacrificed, and were possessed of many other virtues (XII, rates foll.). And therefore Gri, the goddess of prosperity, dwelt with them during yuga's from the very beginning of the world.

Sāham evam guņesv-eva Dānavesv-avasam purņ prajāsargam upādāya nāikam yugaviparyayam. XII,8781.

But afterwards as they multiplied in numbers (XII,2396), they became proud, vain, quarrelsome and shameless, they infringed Dhamma, they neglected to sacrifice, they did not visit the holy places, tirthas, to cleanse themselves from sin (III,8492 foll. XII.6146), they said they were just as good as the Deva's (XII,6148) and envied their happiness (XII.7614). Intoxicated with power they

tortured creatures, made confusion in everything, even challenged the Deva's, and what more is opposed themselves to the law of Brahma (XII,6145); they even succeeded for a time in dethroning Indra and putting Vali in his place, ofr. under Indra. But as they had thus changed their nature, Qrī forsook them.

Tatah kālaviparyāse teṣām guṇaviparyayāt apaçyaṁ nirgataṁ dharman kāmakrodhavaçātmanāṁ XII,8382, 9380.

o: Thereupon in the course of time on account of their change of qualities I saw that Dharma disappeared from them who were animated by passion and rage.

Allusions to this disastrous war between the Asura's and the Sura's are to be found in III, and foll., 12215, 11570 foll. V.1381. 7024. VII,4601, 1025, 5773, 7075, 7540. VIII,2021, 1301 foll. (the sons of Tūraka). IX,1552, 1750, 2450 foll. (Kumūra). XII,1185 (the Brāhmaṇa's side with the Dānava's), 6115 (Rudra), 7010 foll. (Viṣṇu), 8181, 8218.

In the description of the different kinds of Asura's several like traits recur which clearly show that they all belong to one another, even if they have many different names, and in details seem to be different. And that by Asura's the Aborigenes of India have been understood, seems to be evident from several things:

- 1. It is said of them, for instance, that they live in mountains, forests and in the earth.
- 2. That the Asura's are older than the Sura's, and that the earth originally belonged to them.

- 3. Whilst the Asura's generally live in enmity with the Sura's (Aryan's?) f.i. they disturb the sacrificial fire (the watch-fires of the advancing Aryans?), try to take possession of the three strongholds and the Triloka, the three worlds, and a Rāxasa carries off Bhrigu's wife, and so on.
- 4. Still they contract alliances with them: Arjuna espouses king Vāsuki's sister, Mātali's daughter marries the Nāga Sumukha (V,5672), the Nāga Taxaka is an intimate friend of Indra (I,8080), the Raxasa Puruloma had been betrothed to Bhrigu's wife before she had been given in marriage to Bhrigu (I,892), Ghatotkaca is a son of Bhūma and the Raxasa woman Hidimba. Raxasa's and Yaxa's are even named incidentally as being in the army of the Deva's.
- 5. As we have seen above, the Asura's are also grouped with different Hindu tribes, and the Naga people live unto this day in Bengal and Assam in a half savage condition.
- 6. In the strife between the Kuruids and the Panduids some Asura's stand by the Kuruids (VII,4112).
- 7. When the Asura's are often described as bahu'rūpa, have many shapes, this description is well suited to a people who lead a guerrilla war against their enemies and are sometimes in one place, sometimes in another.

While thus there can scarcely be a doubt as to the fact of the wars between the Asura's and the Sura's being originally a strife between two different tribes, still it seems as if this circumstance has been forgotten in the course of time, and the battle has become a symbol of the eternal struggle between good and bad.

### II. THE SURA'S.

The Suras (I,264. III,11080, 12051, 12092 etc. etc.) are also called Deva's, the shining (III,11855. VIII,1105. XII,439. 1184 etc.), and Divāukasas, inhabitants of the shining heavens (I,2500). Sura is derived from svar and Deva from diu dīv, and both these verbs mean to shine. They are called Tridaça (I,8561. III,8162, 8551. VII,1166. XII,8119. XIII,908, 8831) in accordance with their number. the thirty, by which, no doubt, is meant the 33, trayastrimeata ity- etc deva I,2601. As immortals they are called Amara (III 2137, 12077).

They move in the air, devas antarixaras (IX,8080) and high up above the earth do they dwell in Tridiva (XVII,77. XII,1181), in Svarga (cfr. Indra), and from here they descend to earth (I.2500), where the mountain Meru (VI,201. I,1098) in Himālaya between Mālayavat and Gandhamādana, is their meeting place and pleasure ground (I,1008, 1111. XIL,12086). This gold mountain is the highest of all mountains. It is round as a ball, shines like the morning sun, and is like a fire without smoke. It is 84000 yojana's high and goes as far down in depth, and it overshadows the worlds above and below All birds on this montain have golden and across. feathers, whorefore the bird Sumukha, a son of Suparna, left the mountain (in disgust) because there was no difference between good, middling, and bad birds. The sun and the moon and Vayu (the god of the winds) go

round this mountain. It is furnished with heavenly flowers and fruit, and covered everywhere with bright gold dwellings. Here on this mountain, hosts of Deva's, Gandharva's, Asura's and Raxasa's, play together with crowds of Apsarases. The top of Meru is covered with forests that are beautified with flowers and the wide-stretching branches of Jambn trees, and which resound with the melodious voices of kinnari'es (XIII, 1862).

The Signs, lingani, which distinguish the Gods from mankind are the following: They do not sweat, their eyes do not twinkle, their feet do not touch the ground, they always wear fresh wreaths, and they have no shadow:

Yathoktan cakrire devah samarthyan lingadharane sapaçyad vibudhan sarvan asvedan stabdhalocanan hṛṣitasragrajohinan sthitan aspṛçatah xitim III,2211.

o: The gods did as they had been adjured and assumed their respective attributes as best their could. And thereupon she beheld the colostials unmoistened with perspiration, with winkless eyes, and unfading garlands, unstained with dust, and staying without touching the ground. (Roy.)

According to XII,12556 the Gods are immortalized deified human beings, some of whom are said to have attained Heaven through their good deeds:

Evan Rudrāh sa-Vasavas tath-Ādityah parantapa Sādhyā Rājarşisanghāç ca dharmam etain samāçritāh
Apramattās tatah Svargam
prāptāh puņyāih svakarmabhih XII,681, 12756.
o: Thus Rudra's and Vasu's
likewise Āditya's, o thou pursuer of enemies,

likewise Āditya's, o thou pursuer of enemies Sādhya's and numbers of Royal wise men, who have followed this Dharma . without fail, have thereupon attained Svarga by their good deeds.

And those who have been the greatest killers, i.e. heroos, are the most esteemed (XII,139).

### THE DEEDS OF THE SURA'S.

The Churning of the Ocean and the Slaughter of the Asura's.

(According to the Ramayana).

The Sura's and the Asura's churned the milky occan pointly, in order to possess themselves of the drink of immortality, Amṛta. They used the serpent-prince Vāsuki with the 100 heads for the churning rope and the mount Mandara as a churning stick. First came forth the dreadful poison Halāhala which Çaākara (Qiva) swallowed, then the well-skilled man in medicine, the upright Dhanvantari with staff and crock, together with the radiant Apsarases. Then the Goddess of Fortune appeared Laxmī (Çrī) and the happy Vāruņī Varuņa's daughter, (the grape vine), who desired union. Diti's sons would not have her, but Aditi's sons took her the blameless in marriage and were glad and joyful. Thereupon came forth the finest of horses Uccāih-

cravas, and the pearl of jewels Kāustubha, and finally the immortal beverage Amrta. But this last was the cause of a great family-destruction, for the sons of Aditi fought with the sons of Diti, and a dreadful war commenced which brought confusion into the three worlds. The sea-surrounded earth with its mountains belonged formerly to the Däitya's, but with the help of Viṣṇu the Deva's gained the superiority and destroyed Diti's sons. And then Purandara (Indra) ruled joyfully all the world with its Rsi's and wandering minstrels.

Thus the story reads in the Rāmāyaņa I,46, 16—15. VII,11, 14—18 (Bombay-Edition). The way in which it is told in the Mahabh. does not quite agree with this (cfr. supra) neither is it so well rounded, see 1,1111. V,8612. VIII,1268. XII,1186, 12992, 7513.

- Pürvain Kṛtayuge Rama Ditch putra mahabalah Aditeç ca mahabhāga vīryavantah sadharmikāh.
- 16. Tatas teşām naravyaghra buddhir āsīn mahātmanām: amarā vijarāç câiva katham syāma nirāmayāh.
- 17. Teşām cintayatām tatra buddhir āsīd vipaçcitām: xīrodamathanam kṛtvā rasam prāpsyāma tatra vai.
- Tato niçcitya mathanan yoktran kṛtvā ca Vāsukim manthānam Mandaram kṛtvā mamanthur amitāujasah,

- Atha varşasahasreņa yoktrasarpaçirāmsi ca vamanto 'tivişam tatra dadamçur daçanāih çilāh.
- 20. Utpapātāgnisamkāçam Halāhalamahaviṣam, tena dagdham jagat sarvam sadevāsuramānusam.
- 21. Atha devā mahādevani Çamkaram çaranarthinah jagmuli puçupatini Rudrani trāhi trāhiti tuşţuvuli.
- Evam uktas tato devair devadevoçvarah prabhuh. pradur asīt, tato 'trâiva çaākhacakradharo Harili
- 23. Uvāc@inam smitam kṛtva Rudram çūladharam Harih: dāivatāir mathyamane tu yat pūrvam samupasthitam
- 24. Tat tvadīyam suraçreşţha, surānām agrato hi yat agrapūjām iha sthitva grhānēdam viņam prabho.
- 25. Ity-uktvā ca suraçreṣṭhas tatrâivântaradhīyata devatānām bhayam dṛṣṭvā çrutvā vākyam tu çarāginah
- 26. Hālāhalam viṣam ghoram samjagrahāmṛtopamam devān visrjya deveço jagama bhagavān Harah.

- 27. Tato deväsurah sarve mamanthū Raghunandana praviveçātha Pātālain manthānah parvatottamah.
- 28. Tato devāh sagandharvas tuṣṭuvur Madhusūdanam: tvam gatih sarvabhūtānām viçeṣeṇa divāukasām
- 29. Pālayāsmān mahābāho girim uddhartum arhasi iti çrutvā Hṛṣīkeçah kāmaṭhain rūpam asthitah.
- Parvatam pṛṣṭhatas kṛtvā çiçye tatrôdadhau Harih parvatagram tu lokatma hastenûkramya Keçavah
- 31. Devanam madhyatah sthitva mamantha purusottamah. Atha varsasahasrena ayurvedamayah puman
- 32. Udatişthat sudharmātmā sadaņdah sakamaņdaluh atha Dhanvantarir nāma Apsarāç ca suvarcasah
- 33. Apsu nirmanthanād eva rasāt tasmād varastriyah utpetur manujaçreşţha tasmād apsaraso 'bhavan
- 34. Şaşţih koţyo 'bhavans tāsam apsarāŋām suvarcasām asamkhyeyās tu Kākutstha yas tāsām paricārikāh

- 35. Na tāh sma pratigrhņanti sarve te devadānavāh, apratigrahaņād eva tā vāi sādhāraņāh smṛtāh.
- 36. Varuņasya tatah kanyā Vāruņī Raghunandana utpapāta mahābhāgā margamāņā parigraham.
- 37. Diteh putrā na tām Rāma jagrahur Varuņātmajām Adites tu sutā vīra jagrhus tām aninditām.
- 38. Asuras tena Däiteyäh
  Suras tenaditeh sutah,
  hṛṣṭāh pramuditaç câsan
  Varunīgrahanāt-Surah.
- 39. Uccāih çravā hayaçreştho maņiratnam ca Kāustubham udatisthan naragrestha tathāivā mṛtam uttamam.
- 40. Atha tasya kṛte Rāma mahān āsīt kulaxayah Adites tu tatah putrā Ditiputrān ayodhayan.
- 41. Ekatām agaman sarve Asurā Rāxasāih saha, yuddham āsīn mahāghoram vīra Trāilokyamohanam
- 42. Yadā xayam gatam sarvam tadā Vişņur mahābalah Amṛtam so 'harat tūrṇam māyām āsthāya mohinīm

- 43. Ye gatābhimukhan Vişņum axaram purusottaman sampistās te tadā yuddhe Visņumā prabhavisņumā.
- 44. Aditer ātmajā vīrā

  Diteh putrān nijaghnire
  asmin ghore mahāyuddhe
  Dāiteyādityayor bhrçam.
- 45. Nihatya Ditiputrāms tu rājyam prāpya Puramdarah çaçāsa mudito lokān sarsisamghān sacāraņān.
- o: 15. Formerly in the Krtayuga, o Rama.

  Diti's sous (were) very powerful

  and Aditi's sons very happy

  mighty and just.
  - 16. Then, o then man-tiger, it occurred to the high-minded: how shall we become immertal and without old age and sickness.
  - 17. While they considered this it occurred to the wise: having churned the milky ocean we shall verily obtain the juice.
  - 18. Thereupon having decided upon the churning and having made Vāsuki into a churning rope and Mandara into a churning-stick then did the incomparably mighty churn.
  - 19. Then for a thousand years the churnrope-serpent's heads spitting here a strong poison bit the rocks with their teeth.

- 20. Then sprang forth the fiery strong poison Hālāhala, all creation was burned by that, both Deva's, Asura's and men.
- 21. Then the Deva's taking refuge
  with the great god Çañkara
  went to the cattle king Rudra.
  save (us), save (us), so (saying) they praised (him).
- 22. Thus addressed by the gods
  the lord of the gods the mighty one
  appeared there;
  the conch-and-discus-holding Hari.
- 23. Then said to him smiling to Rudra the trident-bearing (said) Hari: in the sea-churning by the gods that which first came forth
- 24. That is thine, o best of the Sura's, because thou standest at the head of the Sura's, please to accept as the highest worship this poison, o thou mighty one.
- 25. And so having spoken the best of Sura's disappeared there,
  but having seen the fear of the gods
  and having heard the words of the hornbow-owners
- 26. He swallowed the dreadful poison as if it were Amrta, and having dismissed the gods he the lord of the gods, the great Hara, went away.
- 27. Thereupon all the Deva's and Asura's churned (again), o Raghunandana, and the churning stick, the most excellent of all mountains entered Hell, Pātāla.

- 28. Then the Deva's together with the Gandharva's praised Madhusüdana: thou art the refuge of all creatures especially of the inhabitants of heaven.
- 29. Save us, o thou mighty-armed, thou shouldst lift up the mountain, having heard this Hrisikeça transformed himself into a tortoise
- 30. (And) having the mountain on his back
  Hari lay there in the ocean,
  but he, the soul of the world, Keçava,
  having seized the top of the mountain with his hand,
- 31. Standing in the midst of the Deva's, ohurned (the ocean) he highest of boings. Then after a thousand years came the very upright man
- 32. Well skilled in medicine with staff and crock namely Dhanvantari, and the Apsaras, the very shining, the bright ones.
- 33. Because of the churning, in the water out of that liquid, the excellent women appeared, o thou best of men, therefore were they (called) Apsaras.
- 34. Sixty koți's were there of those most shining Apsarases; but countless (were they), o Kākutstha, who were their servants.
- All those Deva's and Dānava's did not take in marriage,

- therefore as they were not married were they just called common (property).
- 36. Varuṇa's daughter, Vāruṇī, thereupon, o Raghunandana, appeared, she the happy seeking marriage.
- 37. Diti's sons, o Rāma,
  took her not Varuṇa's daughter,
  but Aditis sons, o hero,
  took her the blameless one (in marriage).
- 38. Asura's are therefore (called) Diti's sons,
  Sura's therefore Aditi's sons;
  glad and happy were
  the Sura's on account of their marriage with V.
- 39. Uccaihçravas, the first of horses, and the pearl of gems Kaustuhha (thereupon) arose, o thou bost of men, likewise Amrita, the excellent.
- 40. Thereupon on account of this, o Rāma. there was great family-destruction, for henceforth Aditi's sons fought with the sons of Diti.
- 41. All the Asura's associated with the Rāxasa's, a frightful battle took place which threw the three worlds into confusion.
- 42. When all was destroyed then Viṣṇu, the powerful took the Amrita hurriedly with the aid of the confusing Māyā.
- 43. Those who were opposed to Viṣṇu the imperishablo, the most supreme of men,

- they were crushed in the battle by Visnu, the powerful.
- 44. Aditi's sons, the heroes, violently struck down Diti's sons in that great and dreadful battle between the Dāitya's and the Aditya's.
- 45. But having destroyed Diti's sons
  (and) having achieved the kingdom
  Purandara ruled joyfully over the world
  with its numbers of Risi's and minstrels.
- 14. Sāubhrātram nasti çūrānam çrnu côdam vaco mama: Aditiç ca Ditiç câiva bhaginyāu sahite hi ta
- 15. Bhārye paramarūpinyān Kaçyapasya prajūpateh, Aditir janayām āsa Devāms Tribhuvaneçvarān,
- 16. Ditis tv-ajanayad Dāityān Kaçyapasyātmasambhavān, Dāityānām kila dharmajāa purêyam vasanārņavavā .
- 17. Saparvatā mahī vīra, te 'bhavan prabhaviṣṇavah, nihatya tāms tu samare Viṣṇuṇā prabhaviṣṇunā
- Devānām vaçam ānītam Trāilokyam idam avyayam
- o: 14. Good fellowship is not to be found amongst heroes, and hear these my words:

Aditi and Diti were both sisters

- 15. The extremely beautiful wives of Kacyapa prapājati, Aditi gave birth to the Deva's, the Lords of the three worlds.
- 16. But Diti gave birth to the Dāitya's,
  Kaçyapa's sons.
  To the Dāitya's certainly belonged,
  o thou in the Dharma well versed,

of yore the sea-washed

- 17. and with mountains furnished Earth, they were very strong but after having killed them in the strife, by the aid of the very strong Visnu
- 18. the imperishable three worlds were delivered over into the power of the Deva's.

The Sura's or Deva's consist, like the Asura's, of several different classes of beings, of which some may be said to be less immortal than others. I shall arrange them alphabetically.

A. Āditya's. These are 12. They were the sons of Kaçyapa prajāpati and Aditi (ofr. under Sūrya), Daxa prajāpati's daughter (XII,7538, 7548), called Devamātar, the mother of the Deva's (IX,2515). They are said to be the foremost of the Deva's and to be very strong, devaçreṣṭha, mahābala (XII,7548). In I,2523 they are thus named:

Adityām dvā daç â ditāh sambhūtā Bhuvaneçvarāh

ye rājan nāmatas tāms te kīrtayişyāmi Bhārata: Dhātā Mittro 'ryamā Çakro Varuņas tv-Amça eva ca Bhago Vivasvān Pū şā ca Savitā daçamas tathā ekādaças tathā Tvastā dvādaço Viṣṇur ucyate.

In XII,7581 and in XIII,7692 (Jayanta) nearly the same names occur, but in XIX,11548 the list appears corrupted thus:

Adityām jajūre rājan
Ādityāh Kaçyapād atha:
Indro Viṣṇur Bhagas Tvaṣtā
Varuṇo 'm̄ço 'ryamū Ravih
Pūṣā Mittraç ca varado
Manuh Parjanya eva ca
ity-ete dvādaçādityā
varisthās Tridivāukasah

ofr. Hariv. 175, 594, 11549, 19156, 12912, 13149, 11167, in I,4824 thus:

Dhātâryamā ca Mittraç ca Varuņo 'moço Bhagas tathā Indro Vivasvān Pūşaç ca Tvaṣṭā ca Savitā tathā Parjanyaç câiva Viṣṇuç ca Ādītyā dvādaça smṛtāh,

Where there is one too many.

Of the twelve names of the Āditiya's Bhaga, Amça, Aryaman, Mittra, Savitar, Ravi, Bhāskara, Vivasvan and Pūṣan, are, no doubt, synonymous expressions for the Sun

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which in the course of time and at different periods has received different names, and Dhātar and Tvaṣṭar for Brahmā, the creator, and Jayanta, Parjanya and Indra for Çakra. Manu is doubtless a synonym for Brahmā.

#### 1. Brahman.

# A. Brahma (Neutrum) is

a) objectively the impersonal prime val being. from which all existence has sprung, in which it exists, and to which it returns. It is eternal, çāçvata, sanātana, it subsists on itself, svayambhū, is invisible. avyakta, unborn, aja, unchangeable, dhruva, imperishable, avyaya, axara, has neither beginning nor end, anādyanta.

As far as Brahma is the seed or germ from which all things have arison, the centre, the hidden being the deep, the essential, the primitive in everything, the string upon which the pearls are strung, it is also said to be the whole universe, the whole existence in manifold shapes, ekaanekadhā (XII,8141).

But Brahma is without characteristics, nirlinga, without qualities, nirguna, and without contrasts, nirdvandva.

Brahma is before creation, Brahma creates the fundamental elements (XII,8511, cfr. 6775, and XII,8528, 8189, 13787. III,12806. XIV,5221, cfr. Manu I,9), in the shape of Brahmā prajāpati (Masculinum, see below) step by step the rest of creation (cfr. Fire Forst. p. 9 follow.).

But as all things have sprung from Brahma, thus all things return to him in the time of dissolution and annihilation, pralaya. The time which passes between a dissolution and a creation is called a Brahma's day, and consists of 1000 yuga's (XII,5506. III,12832). And the time between a general dissolution and a creation is called a Brahma's night and consists likewise of a 1000 yuga's.

Brahma is named and described in XII,6775, 6902 under the name of Mānasa, and is sometimes also called Purusa.

In illustration of what I have said above I refer to the following verses:

Etad Brahma-vidam tāta viditam Brahma çāçvatam XII,8109. III, 190. ... tad avyaktam param Brahma tao chā cvatam anuttamam XII.8971, 11791 Gambhīram gahanam Brahma mahat toyārņavam yathā anādinidhanañ câhur axaram xaram eva ca Sattveşu lingam avıçya nirlingam api tat svayam manyante dhruvam evainam ye janās tattvadarçinah XII 8186 Divākaro gaņam upalabhya nirguņo yathā bhaved apagata vaçmimandalah tathā hy asāu munir iha nirvicesavān sa nirguņam praviçati Brahma câvyayam Anāgatam sukrtavatām parām gatim svayambhuvam prabhavanidhanam avyayam sanātanam yad amrtam avyayam dhruvam vicārya tat param amṛtatvam acnute XII.7516 Anādyantam ajam diyyam ajaram dhruvam avyayam

apratarkyam avijñeyam Brahmagre sampravartate XII.8165 Evam bruvann eva tadā. dadarca tapasām nidhm tam avyayam anāupamyam acintyam cacvatam dhruvam Niskalam sakalam Brahma nirgunam gunagocaram etc. XIII,1019. Ādyam purusam īçānam puruhutam purustutam rtam ekā xaram Brahma vyaktāvyaktam sanātanam Asac ca sadasac câiva yad viçvam sadasatparam parāvarānām srastāram purāņam param avyayam I.22, w Yattad ekāxaram Brahma nanārūpani pradiçyate XII.7891. Brahma tejomayam çukram yasya sarvam idam jagat ekasya bhūtam bhūtasya dyayam sthavarajangamam Aharmukhe vibuddhah san srjate 'vidyayā jagat XII,8610. Yadā tāih pañcabhih pañca yuktāni manasā saha atha tad draxyate Brahma maņāu sūtram ivarpitam XII 7186. VI.1118. Idam viçvam jagat sarvam ajayyañ câpi sarvaçah mahābhūtātmakam Brahma nâtah parataram bhavet

Mahabhūtāni kham vāyur agnir āpas tathā ca bhūh cabdah sparcaç ca rupañ ca raso gandhac ca tadguṇāh III,13913, cfr. XII,7. Vedyam sarpa param Brahma nirduhkham asukhañ ca yat III,12171 Sarvatah pāņipādac ca sarvato 'xiciromukhah sarvatah crutimān loke sarvam vyāpya sa tisthati XIV,1087. Yato jagat sarvam idam prasūtam jñātvâtmavanto vyatiyānti yattat yan mantraçabdāir akrtaprakāçam tad ucyamānam crnu me param yat rasāir vimuktam vividhāic ca gandhāir açabdam asparçam arūpavañ ca pancaprakārān sasrje prajānām Na strī pumān napi na pumsakan ca na san na câsat sadasac ca tan na pacyanti yad Brahma-vido manusyās tad axaram na xaratîti viddhi XII,7891. Axarāt kham tato vāvus tato jyotis tato jalani jalāt prasūtā jagatī jagatyām jāyate jagat Etāih çarīrāir jalam eva gatvā jalāc ca tejah pavano 'ntarīxam khād vāi nivartanti na bhāvinas te monañ ca te vāi param āpnuvanti Nôṣṇam na çītam mṛdu nâpi tīxṇam nâmlam kaşayam madhuram na tıktam

na çabdavan nâpi ca gandhavat tan na rūpavat tat paramasvabhāvain XII.7394. Brahma tat paramam jñānam amṛtaim jyotir axaram XII.7839. Sampraxalanakale 'tikrante caturvugasahasrānte avyakte sarvabhütapralaye sarvabhūtasthāvarajangame Jyotirdharanivāyurahite and he tamasi jaläikärnave loke āpa ity-evam Brahmabhūtam etc. XII,13190. Pratyāhāran tu vaxyāmi carvaryadāu gate 'hani yathêdan kurute'dhyatman susüxmam vicyam īcyarah Divi sūryas tatha sapta dahanti cikhino 'reisah sarvam etat tadarcirbhih pūrņam jājvalyate jagat Prthivyām yāni bhūtāni jangamāni dhruvāņi ca tāny-evagre pralīyante bhumitvam upayanti ca Tatah praline sarvasmin sthāvare jangame tathā nirvrxā nistrnā bhūmir dreyate kūrmapṛṣṭhavat... XII,8553. III,12808 follow. Evam sarvāni bhūtani Brahmāiva pratisancarah vathāvat kīrtitam samyag evam etad asamçayam.

Bodhyam vidyāmayam dṛṣṭvā yogibhih paramātmabhih evam vistārasaāxepāu Brahmāvyakte punah punah Yugasāhasrayor ādāv ahorātras tathāiva ca XII.8578.

Brahma in an objective sense is sometimes identified with Kāla on whom all things depend (XII,786) and who is again identical with Mṛtyu, both of whom destroy and swallow up every thing as Brahma does.

This may be seen from the following passages:

... tam Kālam iti jānihi yasya sarvam idam vaçə XII,8141, 8126 follow.

o: know that he (Brahma) is time in whose power all this (universe) is.

Kālo 'smi lokaxayakrt pravrddho VI,1278

o: I am Kāla the very mighty destroyer of the world.

Kālam sarveçam akarot samhāravinayātmakam XII,4501.
Sarve Kālena srjyante hriyante ca punah punah XIII,56.
5: all are created by Kāla

and carried away again and again.

Mrtyu Kālena coditah VII,3185, 5196.

Mṛtyo saṅkalpitā me tvaṁ prajāh saṅhārahetunā

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The ancient Hindu's have had the same impression of time's eternity as we receive from reading geological descriptions of the history of the Earth; cfr. Lubbock, The Beauties of Nature.

gaccha samhar a sarvās tvam prajā ma ca vicāraya XII,9195.

o: O Death, thou hast been sent forth by me to destroy creatures go thou (and) destroy all creatures and have no scruples.

Giva and Viṣṇu are sometimes characterized in the the same manner as Brahma, that is to say, their worshippers love to enhance their glory by giving them Brahma's qualities. Cfr. Qiva and Viṣṇu.

b) In a subjective sense Brahma is that condition of a human being, that is: its ātman, soul, through which it has (been transformed into being) the same as the impersonal, disembodied Brahma, because by penance and knowledge it frees itself from all cravings, inclinations and passions, and attains Nirvāṇa o: the extinction of all desire for existence and holding on to life, that is to say: will not be reborn, but is absorbed into the objective Brahma and becomes part of it.

(In explanation of this I cite the following verses.

Atha tatra virāgī sa
gacchati tv-atha samçayam
param avyayam icchan sa
tam evâviçate punah
Amṛtāc câmṛtam prāptah
çāntibhūto nirātmavān
Brahmabhūtah sa nirdvandvah
sukhī çānto nirāmayah
Brahmasthānam anāvarttam
ekam axarasanjnakam
aduhkham ajaram çāntam
sthānam tat pratipadyate XII,7583.

or If, however, he goes to those regions after having freed himself from attachments, and feels a mistrust (respecting the felicity he enjoys) and wishes for That which is Supreme and Immutable, he then enters even that. In that case he attains to the ambrosia of ambrosia, to a state free from desire and destitute of separate consciousness. He becomes Brahma's self, freed from the influence of opposites, happy, tranquil, and without pain. Indeed he attains to that condition which is free from pain, which is tranquillity's self, which is called Brahma, whence there is no return, and which is styled the One and Immutable.

Yac cêdam çrûvayed vidvan sada parvani parvani dhûtapapma jetasvargo Brahmabhûyaya kalpate XVIII,187, cfr. 1,2317 XIV,953.

: and when a wise man recites this, always at one festival after another, then he is transformed into being Brahma after having shaken off sin and conquered Svarga.

Yah syād ekāyane līnas
tuṣṇīm kiñcid acintayan
pūrvam pūrvam parityajya
tīrņo bandhanād bhavet
sarvamittrah sarvasahah
çame rakto jitendriyah
vyapetabhayamanyuç ca
ātmavān mucyate narah
Ātmavat sarvabhūteṣu
ac caren niyatah çucih...

Vihāya sarvasaākalpān
buddhyā çarīramānasān
çanāir nirvāņam āpnoti
nirindhana ivānalah
Sarvasamskāranirmukto
nirdvandvo nisparigrahah
tapasā indriyagrāmam
yaç caren mukta eva sah
Vimuktasarvasamskārāis
tato Brahma sanātanam
param āpnoti samçāntam
aculam nityam axaram. XIV.542 foll.

He who becomes absorbed in the one receptacle (of all things) freeing himself from even the thought of his own identity with all things - indeed ceasing to think of even his own existence gradually casting off one after another, will succeed in crossing his bonds. That man who is the friend of all, who endures all, who is attached to tranquillity, who has conquered all his senses, who is divested of fear and wrath, and who is of restrained soul, succeeds, in emancipating himself. He who behaves towards all creatures as towards himself. who is restrained, pure, ... Abandoning, with the aid of the understanding, all purposes relating to body and mind, one gradually attains to cessation of separate existence, like a fire unfed with fuel. One who is freed from all impressions, who transcends all pairs of opposites, who is destitute of all belongings, and who uses all his senses under the guidance of penances, becomes emancipated. Having become freed from all impressions, one then attains to Brahma which is eternal and supreme, and tranquil, and stable, and enduring, and indestructible. (Roy.)

> Buddhih karmagunāir hīnā vadā manasi vartate tadā sampadyate Brahma, tatrâiva pralayam gatam Asparcanam açravanam anāsvādam adarcanam aghrānam avitarkañ ca sattvam pravicate param, Manasy-ākṛtayo magnā manas tv-abligatam matim matis tv-abhigatā jāānam jñānan câbhigatam param, Indriyāir manasah siddhir na buddhim budhyate manah na buddhir budhyate vyaktan sűxmam tv-etäni pacyati XII,7456.

o: When the understanding, freed from attachment to the objects of the senses, becomes fixed in the mind, then does one succeed in attaining to Brahma, for it is there that the mind with the understanding withdrawn into it can possibly be extinguished. Brahma is not an object of touch, or of hearing, or of taste, or of sight, or of smell, or of any deductive inference from the Known. Only the understanding (when withdrawn from every thing else) can attain to it. All objects that the mind apprehends through the senses are capable of being withdrawn into the mind; the mind can be withdrawn into the understanding; the Understanding can be

withdrawn into the Soul, and the Soul into the Supreme. The senses cannot contribute to the success of the mind. The mind cannot apprehend the Understanding. The Understanding cannot apprehend the manifested Soul. The Soul, however, which is subtile, beholds them all. (Roy)

Ity-evam uktvā vacanam maharşih sumahātapāh pratisthata Çukah siddhin hitvā doşamç caturvidhan, Tamo hy-astavidham hitvā jahāu paācavidham rajah tatah sattvam jahau dhāmams tad adbhutam ivābhavat.

Tatas tasmin pade nitye nirguņe liūgavarjite
Brahmaņi pratyatisthat sa vidhūmo 'gnir iva jvalan XII,12608.

o: Having spoken in this way, the regenerate Rishi of austere penances, viz. Quka. stayed on his success, casting off the four kinds of faults. Casting off also the eight kinds of Tamas, he dismissed the five kinds of Rajas. Endued with great intelligence, he then cast off the attribute of Satta. All this seemed exceedingly wonderful. He then dwelt in that eternal station that is destitute of attributes freed from every indication, that is, in Brahma, blazing like a smokeless fire. (Roy.)

Yadā samharate kāmān kūrmo 'ngāniva sarvaçah tadātmajyotir ātmāyam ātmany-eva prapaçyati XII,6508.

o: When a person succeeds in withdrawing all his desires like a tortoise withdrawing all its limbs, then his soul, which is self-luminous, succeeds in looking into itself. (Roy.)

Yadā câyam na bibheti
yadâ câsmān na bibhyati
yadā nêcchati na dveṣṭi
Brahma sampadyate tadā. (=XII,781, 6509.)
Yadā na kurute bhāvam
sarvabhūteṣu pāpakam
karmaṇā manasā vācā
Brahma sampadyate tadā (=XII,8511.)
na bhūto na bhaviṣyo 'sti
na ca dharmo 'sti kaçcana. XII,8364.

o: When a person fears nothing and is not feared himself, when he cherishes no desire and hath no aversion for anything, he is then said to attain to Brahma. When a person does not conduct himself sinfully towards any creature in thought, word, or deed, then he is said to attain to Brahma. There is no past, no future. There is no morality or righteousness. (Roy.)

> Jñānena hi yadā jantur ajñānaprabhavam tamah vyapohati tadā Brahma prakāçati sanātanam XII,10000.

o: When a person by knowledge disperses darkness which has its origin in ignorance, then the eternal Brahma appears.

> Nānamohasamāyuktā--buddhijālena samvrtā

asūxmadrstayo mandā bhrāmyante tatra tatra ha Susūxmadrstayo rājan vrajanti Brahma çāçvatam XIII,191.

o: They who give themselves up to all sorts of folly, they who are ensnared in the net of ignorance, they who cannot see the sublime, the dull, they run here and there, (but) they who clearly see the sublime, they go to the eternal Brahma.

Xamā Brahmā o: forgiveness is Brahma, see Kaçyapa's beautiful song in III,1100.

# B. Brahmā (Masculinum).

Brahma is the personal form of the impersonal Brahma which comprises all existence. As such he is the first creator, adikartar of the fashioner of all things.

Ädikartā sa bhūtānāni tam evāhuh Prajāpatim, sa vāi srjati bhūtāni sthāvarāņi carāņi ca.
Tatah sa srjati Brahmā devarspitrmānavān lokān nadīh samudrāme ca diçah çānlān vanaspatīn. etc. XII,8622.

o: He is the first creator of beings
him they call Prajāpati
he surely creates beings, the firm and the moveable.
Thereupon that Brahmā creates
the Deva's, Rṣī's, and mankind,
the worlds, the rivers and the oceans,
the four quarters of the heavens,
the rocks, the trees etc.

And he is therefore also designated as Lokakṛt (I,2191), Trilokakṛt (XII,6976. XIV,521), Viçvakṛt (I,928) and Dhātar (XII,111, 7550. I,2528), and especially often as Prajāpati, Lord of the creation:

Aham Prajāpatir Brahmā III,19797, 13586 o: I am Prajāpati Brahmā

and as Sarvalokapitāmaha, everyone's grandfather (I.901. II,485. IX,2105. XIV 521) and Lokapitāmaha (I,2074) or only Pitāmaha (XII,7604, 6145. III,11856).

When he furthermore often is called Svayambhū the self-existing (XII,7616) just like Brahma, then this title seems to point to his having from the first been looked upon as being identical with the impersonal, primordial being, see above p. 57. The same seems to be the case regarding the name Puruşa which is also used in connection both with the personal and the impersonal Brahman. We meet therefore with different places where Brahmā is simply mixed up or confounded with Brahma, see XII,7569. III,12507 follow.

Of the creation in detail is told as follows:

Aşıjad brāhmanān evam pūrvam Brahmā Prajāpatīn ātmatejobhinirvītān bhāskarāgnisamaprabhān Tatah satyan ca dharman ca tapo Brahma ca çāçvātam (!) ācāran cāiva çāucan ca svargāya vidadhe prabhuh. Deva-Dānava-Gandharvā Dāityāsura-Mahoragāh

Yaxa-Rāxasa-Nāgāç ca Piçācā Manujās tathā Brāhmaṇāh Xatriyā Vāiçyāh Çūdrāç ca dvijasattama ye cânye bhūtasamghānām varṇāms tāmç câpi nirmame. etc. XII.0980.

o: Thus Brahmā created first
those brāhmaṇa's that are called Prajāpati's
who are distinguished by their splendour
inasmuch as they beam like the sun's fire.
Thereupon the Lord of Svarga created
Truth and Dharma, Penance
and the eternal Brahma(!)
and Good Bohaviour and Purity etc.

Brahmā is then the first and the highest of the Prajāpati's. As these are so often spoken of I give their names here according to XII,7570, where they are mentioned as the 7 spiritual sons of Brahmā:

Marīcir Atry-Aūgirasāu Pulastyah Pulahah Kratuh Vaçışthaç ca mahābhāgah sadçço vai Syayambhuvā, Ofr. XII,18724.

In respect to this I remark that in XII,7534 and III,11854, Daxa is said to be the seventh, and that the same list, with the exception of Vaçiştha occurs in I,2518, 2568, and that longer lists of Prajāpati's and their descendents are to be found in II,4556. I,2519. XII,7571. XIII,4145.

QIVA is likewise called a son of Brahmā (XII,18728, 18705. VII,2048). When in Viṣṇuism which is without doubt the last phase of Indian mythology, it is said that

Brahmā has sprung from the Lotus that appeared in Viṣṇu's navel when he lay in yoga-worship (III,497, 15830) then this myth takes its root in the fact that Viṣṇu was identified with Brahma, but it does not harmonize with the idea of Brahmā as the creator of the world. The same will apply in reference to Çiva as having sprung out of the forehead of Viṣṇu (III,499) and not that of Brahmā.

When the gods are in distress they take refuge in Brahmā (1,225, 2491. III,8828. V,1917. XII,7613).

Above Svarga lie Brahmā's beautiful worlds. Brahmā's seat. sadas, is on Mahāmeru (III,11858). Of his Assembly-Hall, sabha, it is said in II,489.

> Tatah sa Bhagavan Sūryo mām upādāya vīryavān agacchat tam Sabham Brahmim vipāpmā vigataklamah. Evamrupêti sa çakya na nirdestum narādhipa xanena hi bibharty-anyad anirdecyam vapus tathā Na veda parimāņam rā samsthānam câpi Bhārata na ca rūpam maya tadrg dṛstapūrvam kadācana Susukhā sā sadā rājan na cîtă na ca gharmadâ na xutpipāse na glānim prāpya tām prāpnuvanty-uta, Nānārūpāir iva kṛtā manibhih sā subhāsvarāih

stambhāir na ca dhṛtā sā tu çāçvatī na ca sā xarā Divyāir nānāvidhāir bhāvair bhāsadbhir amitaprabhāih ati candrañ ca sūryañ ca çikhinañ ca svayamprabhā dīpyate nākapṛṣṭhasthā bhartsayantīva bhāskaram. tasyām sa Bhagavān āste.

o: And the exalted and sinless deity Surya endued with great energy, and knowing no fatigue, took me with him to the Sabhā of the Grand-sire. O it is impossible to describe that Sabhā saying, it is such, for within a moment it assumes a different form that language fails to paint. O Bharata, it is impossible to indicate its dimensions or shape. I never saw anything like it before. Ever contributing to the happiness of those within it, its atmosphere is neither cold nor warm. Hunger and thirst or any kind of uneasiness disappear as soon as one goeth thither. It seems to be made up of brilliant gems of many kinds. It doth not seem to be supported on columns. It knoweth no deterioration, being eternal. That self-effulgent mansion, by its numerous blazing celestial indications of unrivalled splendour, seems to surpass the moon, the sun, and the fire. Stationed in heaven, it blazes forth as if censuring the maker of the day. In that mansion, O king, the Supreme Deity, the Grand-sire of all created things, having himself, alone, created everything by virtue of his creative illusion, stayeth ever. (Rov.)

According to Vișnuism Brahmā derives his origin from the lotus that came from Vișnu's navel while he lay in yoga-sleep III,18559, 15821, 107.

In III,18561. XII,18723 he is said to have 4 faces, caturmukha, caturvaktra, like Qiva.

His wife is called Savitri (XIII,6750, 7685).

His chariot, vimāna, which is as quick as thought, is harnessed with Hamsa's (XIII,859).

His emblem is a lotus, padma (XIII,825).

His altar, vedi, is called Samantapancaka (IX, 9008, 3085).

#### The Deeds of Brahma.

In XII,6150 foll. the following is told about a great offering that Brahmā once arranged on the top of Himavat. On that occasion, it is said, a dreadful thing occurred.

Candramā vimalam vyoma yathābhyuditatārakam vikīryāgnim tathābhūtam utthitam çrūyate tadā Nīlotpalasavarņābham tīxņadamṣṭram kṛçodaram prāmœum sudurdharṣataram tathāiva hy-amitanjasam, Tasminn utpatamāne ca pracacāla vasundharā mahormikalitāvartaç cuxubhe sa mahodadhih.

o: Even as the Moon (shows herself to be) after having strewn fire over the spotless heavens with rising stars, such a being is said to have appeared then having the colour of the blue lotus having sharp teeth a small stomach being tall and difficult to withstand likewise of enormous strength, and the moment this being came into existence the earth trembled violently and the ocean rose in great waves causing maelstroms in its disturbance.

This being was called Asi and was a mighty sword that came forth to protect mankind and to destroy the enemies of the Sura's. Brahmā gave this sword to Rudra to avert misdoing. Rudra gave it to Viṣṇu, Viṣṇu to Marīci, Marīci to the great wise men (Rṣi's), these to Vāsava, and Vāsava to the Rulers of the world, these to Manu, son of the Sun, that is: to the Law.

## 2. Sürya, the Sun.

Sūrya and Āditya are the common names for the sun. The name sūrya which means the Luminous, comes from the verb sūr, suar, svar—to shine, from which we also have svar and svarga.

Ekah Süryah sarvam idam vibliāti III,10658 v: The one sun lights all this (universe).

Kāmañ ca te karişyāmi yan mān vaxyasi Bāhuka Vıdarbhām yadi yātvādya Sūryam darçayitāsi me III,2827, 11867.

o: I will fulfill your wish which ever you may mention, o Bāhuka, if you will go to-day to Vidarbhā and show me the sun.

Āditya (III,11874. XIII,7838) comes according to I,2628 from Aditi who was the one of Daxa prajāpati's

daugthers that married Kacyapa prajūpati (XII,7597) and whose children are called Āditya's.

Adityām dvādaç-Âdityāh sambhūtā bhuvaneçvarāh etc. see above.

o: From Aditi descend the 12 Āditya's, the rulers of the world.

Aditi as mother of the sun must doubtless be understood as a-diti, the boundless, the endless (light), cfr. Rigveda āditeya sūria. When she is called Devamātar (IX,2515), this means: the mother of the shining (gods).

The sun was made the ruler of the flaming lights (XII,4499).

As a Person the sun appears in III,17077, where it is said:

Ājagāma tato rājams tvaramāņo Divākarah madhupingo mahābāhuh kambugrīvo hasann iva angadī baddhamukuto diçah prajvālayann iva.

o: Thereupon, o king, the Maker of the day came hastily, (he was) yellow as honey, had great arms, a neck like a tortoise shell, and he smiled, he wore bracelets, and was adorned with a diadem, and lit up all the quarters of the heavens.

His earrings Aditi had given him according to III,17118.

His wife is called in I,2599 Tvāstrī vādavārūpadhāriņī, who was in the shape of a mare, and in XIII,6751 Suvarcalā, the greatly shining.

His sister Sureņu is married to Mārtaņda (Harivamça 546).

His daughter Suprajā was married to Bhānu (III.14161).

As his son is named in XII,1495 Yama with the surname Vāivasvata 2: son of Vivasvat, cfr. Yama.

His car has but one wheel, and is drawn by a Naga, see XII,13900.

Vivasvato gacchati paryayena vodhum bhavāms tam ratham ekacakram

o: Thou goest in turn to draw that one-wheeled chariot of the sun but according to VII.sesi it is drawn by 7 horses

> Ekacakram ratham tasya tam uhuh suciram hayah ekacakram ivarkasya ratham sapta haya yatha

o: His one-wheeled chariot, the shining one, drew the horses, like the 7 horses (draw) the sun's one-wheeled chariot.

His charioteer is Aruna. Aruna is the name of the god of the Dawn, it means according to its derivation the red one, because the word is related to arusa, red.

Aruna and Garuda were Kaçyapa's sons by Vinatā, Daxa prajāpati's daughter (I,2520). Aruna was the elder and Garuda the younger, as it appears from the following tale (I,1075).

Daxa prajāpati had two beautiful daughters, Kadru and Vinatā. They became the wives of Kaçyapa, and he granted each (I,2520) of them a present. Kadru

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chose 1000 sons in the form of serpents all equal in splendour, but Vinata chose only two, that were to surpass Kadru's sons in splendour and strength. a long time Kadru bore 1000 eggs and Vinata 2. Five hundred years after this Kadru's sons came out of the eggs, but Vinata's twins did not appear. Covered with shame Vinata broke one of the eggs and saw a son whose one part was full grown, but whose other part was incomplete. In anger the son cursed his mother in the following Inasmuch as I am made incomplete by you, shall you become a slave, but if you live 5 thousand years without jealousy then shall you be treed from slavery, and if you will have your son to become famous you must till then guard him well. With these words he rose in the air and as Aruna he always sits at the front of the sun's chariot as charioteer (VII,7906). But Garuda was born at the appointed time. He has the serpents for food. As soon as he was born he forsook his mother and soared up into the air. He lives not only on serpents, but also on the leavings of others.

Aruna is called Kacyapa's wise son in I,1271.

Kaçyapasya suto dhîmān Aruņēty-abhiviçrūtah

and the sun's charioteer who stands on the chariot in front of the sun, has a big body and great effulgence, and prevents the sun from burning up the world in his anger. In VII,8458 he is said to steal the splendour of the moon.

Garuda and Suparna are the most common names for the King of the Birds, paxirāj (III,10571).

Garuda and Suparna are perhaps expressions for the rapidity and strength of the light and the lightning.

GARUDA. 79

Garuda means probably the same as garutmat, the winged one, from garut, a wing, for in V,3630 Garuda is plainly adressed as Garutmat:

# Garutman bhujagendrare Suparņa Vinatātmaja

Suparna means one who has handsome feathers or wings, from su and parna (V,8675, 5290. I,1502, 1518).

Garuda is, as explained above, Aruņa's younger brother, Aruņānuja (V,1851), and is called, like Aruņa, a son of Vinatā and Kacyapa, Vinatāsūnu, Vāinateya, (I,1501. V,3587, 3851) and Kacyapeya (1,1177).

According to V.3587 Garuda has 6 sons: viz Sumukha, Sunāman, Sunetra, Suvareas, Suruc and Suvala, and from them descend all Vinata's kindred of serpenteating birds who worship Viṣṇu as their great protector. About Sumukha see above p. 43.

Garuda lives south of Nisadha in the land of Hiranmaya by the river Hiranvati (VI,200).

He is pictured as being immensely big and strong and like Agni in splendour (1,1212, 1245) and with eyes red as the clear lightning (1,1241). With the wind caused by his wings he is ablo to stop the (rotation of the) three worlds (V.3674. VIII,3426). His haste and violence is so great that he seems to drag the earth itself with its waters, mountains and forests after him (V,8857. VII,1605. I,1623). But once when he boasted of his strength Viṣṇu punished him for his arrogance by laying the whole weight of his right arm upon him (V,8874). How for an instant he loses his wings as a punishment for his bad thoughts is told in V,2873. How he is offended at being denied his lawful food the serpent Sumukha, is related in the same place.

From the time of creation the serpents are by the creator, dhātar, intended for Garuḍa's eating (V,3677. I,1098), therefore he is called the Serpent-eater, pannagāçaka (II,946. V,3855), the serpent-destroyer, nāgaxayakara (I,1217).

Garuda is portrayed on Viṣṇu's banner (XIII,6820, 2686. I,1510. V,2701), ofr. Viṣṇu.

As to Garuda's Deeds we must mention, that at his birth he broke the egg without his mother's assistance, and immediately swung himself up into the air (I,1288). His great achievement of stealing Amrta from the Gods, is told in I,1320—1545.

Amongst the 108 Names of the Sun (III,146, mark the hymn to the sun III,166) some signify his function of giving light, viz.

Arka, from arc, radiate, shine.
Tamisra-han, killing darkness.
Tamo-nuda, dispolling darkness.
Divā-kara, making light.
Dīptāmçu, having shining rays.
Prabhā-kara, making light.
Bhānu, from bhā, to shine.
Bhās-kara, making light.
Vi bhāvasu. from bhā, to shine.
Vivasvat, from vas. to shine.
Sahasrāmçu, having a thousand rays.
Sūrya, from sūr, to shine.

And as such he is therefore called the Eye of the World:

Tvam Bhāno jagataç caxus III,166.

Ruler of all shining bodies, īçani ... tejasām Bhāskaraŭ cakre XII.1109. IX,2816.

And with his heat he calls forth and sustains all living things. Therefore he is also called: Father of all beings (III,115 follow. XIII,1200), and when he rises on the horizon, then all turn with a prayer towards him (VII.8150. III,11647, 164).

The following names belong doubtless to this side of his nature:

Aryaman	Pūşau
Jivana	Bhaga
Dhātar	Savitar
Pāvaka	

In XIII.1681 Aditya is said to be the Entrance to the Roads (Kingdom) of the Deva's:

Ayam sa Devayānānām Ādityo dvāram ucyate.

And according to XII,11037 the whole world will shrivel or dry up at the moment of Dissolution.

Both phases of the nature of this deity we find in the Rigveda, expressed in the names of Sūrya and Savitar.

#### 3. Indra.

Indra is the head of the Sura's (Deva's):

Surānām pravara (III,10666) Devānām asmi Vāsavah (VI,1226).

According to XII,611. VI,240 he obtained Indraship through surpassing all the other gods by his sacrifices; in XII,3662 he is said, on the contrary, to have become Indian Mythology 6

Devādhipa after killing a number of Dāitya's and Dānava's, cfr. III.14216. He was called Mahendra, the Great Indra, after he had conquered and killed Vrtra, as remarked in V.1562 (cfr. XII,138).

Indro Vṛtravadhenâiva Mahendrah samapadyata māhendram pragraham lebhe lokānañ cêçvaro 'bhavat.

Further he is named Devendra, Devānām deva, Devarāja, Sarvadeveça and Çakra. These seem to be the more frequently occurring names for this god. Regarding his many other names see below.

The Etymology of the word Indra is uncertain. The grammarian Vopadeva specifies, to be sure, a root 1d in the sense of equipping with great power, but this is perhaps only a grammatical root, as it is not to be found in literature. It is more probable that the word Indra originally has been Indura from indu, a drop, as it is sometimes in Rigveda to be read in three syllables, and as Indra 1s so often associated with rain and is designated as he who sends rain, f. i. I,1135. III,8991, 19217, 670. VI,434. I,1286, 2122. XII,8424.

na vavarşa Sahasrāxas XIV.2867. I,8001. yadi dvādaça varşāni na varşisyati Vāsavah XIV.2861. I,8001.

This feature of his nature has later been detached and made an independent deity under the name of Parjanya, see below.

The word Cakra comes from cak, to be strong, and signifies the Mighty.

Indra's wife, Indrani (I.7331 III.1851), Mahendrani (III.1672) is called Çaci (III.1651. XIII.6750) which is derived from the same root as Çakra, and therefore also means the Mighty. In IX.2763 it is related how Bharadvaja's daughter, the beautiful Çrutāvatī, submitted herself to great penances, in order to become the wife of Indra.

His beautiful and always victorious elephant who stands at the entrance to Svarga, is called Āirāvata (III,1676, 1758, 11921) or Āirāvaṇa (XII,8221), and has 4 tusks. It resembles the mountain Kāilāsa.

His horse Uccāihçravas (I,1001, 1100, 1221, 1213. VIII,243) came forth under the churning of the ocean, and is white with a black tail.

His chariot, ratha, is spoken of without name in III,1714. See follow. It is drawn by 10,000 (XIII,178 by 1000 white) reddish yellow horses (III,1720) as speedy as the wind. It scatters the dark clouds as it cleaves the sky and fills all quarters of the heavens with a din like the crash of thunderclouds. Swords, spears and clubs. flashing lightning and thunderbolts as well as most frightful serpents are on the chariot. When Arjuna began to think of it, it appeared at once.

Erect on his chariot stands his flagstaff, Vāijayanta, decorated with gold, bright dark blue and straight as a bamboo (III.1721).

His charioteer, sārathi, minister, mantrin, and friend, sakhi (III,1752. V,8641) is Mātali, who is Indra's equal in bravery. Mātali's wife is called Sudharmā (V,8519) and his daughter Guṇakeçī was famous for her beauty. When Mātali sought a bridegroom for her (V,8511) he found none suitable, neither among

Gods. Dāitya's, Gandharva's, Men or Rṣi's. He therefore, in the night, consulted his wife, and determined at last to make a journey to the world of the Nāga's, as he said to himself: possibly there may be found there a suitable husband for her. On the way there he met Nārada, and after they both had got leave of Varuṇa to visit the Nāga-world, they began to wander about in that world and at last found the beautiful Sumukha who then became the husband of Guṇakeçī (V,3672).

The weapons of Indra are as follows:

The thunderbolt, vajra, which Tvaștar made from the bones of the Rṣi Dadhica (Agastya). It surpasses all other weapons, for with that he cleaves mountains and with that he struck off Vṛtra's head (V,4784).

The bow Vijaya (V. 1951).

The trumpet, çankha, by name Devadatta (III.12076).

His kingdom or world, Indraloka, Qakraloka (XIII,7111) is called Svar, Svargati, Svarloka, Div and Devaloka o: the world of light and the shining gods (III,15112, 7038, 1708, 1749. I.268. VIII,100). Svarga is most likely originally an adjective implying marga, road, therefore the road leading to Svarga, cfr. III,11168.

Devalokasya margo 'yam, agamyo mānusāih sadā

o: This is the way to Devaloka which can never be trodden by man.

The entrance to Svarga is called Svargadvāra (III.7099), and at the gate stands Āirāvata (III.1753).

From the Himavat-mountains which are the most excellent in the world (XIII,1407) and which are extolled

as divine, holy and loved by the gods who seek these regions, they using them as pleasure-grounds (III,1195, 11606); from these mountains of which Meru is the centre (see "Fire Forstudier" p. 48) you ascend through the air to Svarga (III.1727, 1711. 12092, 15112) From Mandara in this mountain-range Arjuna ascended to Indra's heaven conveyed there by Mātali in Indra's chariot, after he had first sung this beautiful hymn to the mountain: (III,1715)

Sādhūnām punyaçīlānām muninam punyakarmanam tvain sada samçrayah caila svargamārga bhikā nxmam, Tvatprasadat sada çaila brahmanah xatriya viçah svargan praptac caranti sma deväili salia gatavyathali, Adriraja mahagaila munisamcraya tirthavan gacchāmy-amantrayitvā tvam sukham asmy-uşitas tvayi, Tava sănuni kunjāc ca nadyah prasravaņāni ca tīrthāni ca supuņyām maya drstany-anekacah, Phalāni ca sugandhīni bhaxitāni tatas tatah susugandhāc ca vāryoghās tvaccharîravinihsrtāh Amrtāsvādanīvā me pītāh prasravaņodakāh, cicur yathā pitur anke

susukham vartate naga
Tathā tavāūke lalitam
çāilarāja mayā prabho
apsarogaņasaūkirņe
brahmāghoṣānunādite,
Sukham asmy-uṣitah çāila
tava sānuṣu nityadā.

o: O mountain, thou art ever the refuge of holy, heaven-seeking Munis of virtuous conduct and behaviour. It is through thy grace, O mountain, that Brāhmanas and Kshatriyas and Vaicyas attain heaven, and their anxieties gone, sport with the celestials! O king of mountains, O mountain, thou art the asylum of Munis, and thou holdest on thy breast numerous sacred shrines! Happily have I dwelt on thy heights! I leave thee now, bidding thee farewell! Oft have I seen thy table-lands and bowers, thy springs and brooks, and the sacred shrines on thy breast! I have also eaten the savoury fruits growing on thee, and have slaked my thirst with draughts of perfumed water oozing from thy body! I have also drunk the water of thy springs, sweet as Amrita itself. O mountain, as a child sleepeth happily on the lap of his father, so have I, O king of mountains, O exalted one, sported on thy breast echoing with the notes of Apsaras and the chaunting of the Vedas! O mountain, every day have I lived happily on thy table-lands! (Roy.)

What he then sees in the various heavenly regions is related in III,1745 follow.

The grove in Svarga is called Nandana (III.1757. 18086, 15419).

Indra's city is called Amaravatī (III,1755). It has 1000 gates and an extent of 100 yojana's (I,3594). It is adorned with precious stones and yields all seasons' fruit. The sun does not scorch there, and neither heat nor cold nor fatigue torments people. Neither grief nor despondency nor weakness rules, nor anger nor covetousness. All are content (III,12056).

His assembly-hall, sabhā, is called Puskaramālinī (II,510). It is built by Çakra himself and can move at its own pleasure in any direction. It is 150 yojana's in length, 100 in breadth and 5 in height. It drives away the weakness of old age, fatigue and fear. Full of rooms and seats and ornamented with heavenly trees it is extremely beautiful. Hero sits Çakra with his wife Çacī. He has a crown on his head, and a white screen is held over him (II,283. III,1772).

If you ask, who comes to Indra, there is particularly mentioned 3 classes of mankind: those who sacrifice, those who do penance, and those who behave like heroes in battle (II,158. III,1718, 1759. IX.3086. XI,61). In XIII,6632 all those are named who go to Svarga, svargagaminas.

Indra's special names. Beside the common names Indra and Çakra which seem to express the dignity and power of the god as the highest amongst the gods, we find in the Mahābhārata several other names that have a similar meaning. To these must be reckoned:

Tridaçādhipa	Vajradhara	Vajrin
Tridivasya ekarāja	<b>V</b> ajrapāņi	Surendra
Trāilokyapati	Vajrasya bhartar	Sureçvara
Marutvat	Vajrabhrt	

#### Whereas:

Sahasrāxi<sup>1</sup>, Sahasranetra and Vāsava seem to refer to the light-world, the foundation for the whole Indra-myth.

Maghavan and Çatakratu, no doubt, belong to one another and refer to Indra having obtained his Indraship through sacrificing.

The other names express Indra's war with evil hostile powers, partly in a general way, but also especially as regards certain Asura's:

Dūitya-Dūnava-han, -sūdana. Namucer hantar
Purandara Pakaçāsana
Surārihan Prahlādahan
Vala-Vṛtra-han
Balanāçana Çanivara-Paka-han
Balahan.

### The Deeds of Indra.

We have seen above that the Asura's and the Sura's were half-brothers, that they quarrelled about the Amrta, and that this strife lasted for thousands of years. The Sura's with Indra at their head conquered at last by the help of Viṣṇu (III,475) and Indra became Lord of the three worlds. Now commenced a happy time which is in III.19216 described thus:

While it is related in I,7705 that Indra got 1000 big red eyes on his back, sides and in front when he, fascinated by Tilottame's beauty, gazed on her as she walked round him and the other gods, it says on the contrary in XIII,2828 that Gautama had cursed India, because he could not control his passions, and had therefore caused 1000 sexual marks to appear on his body, which however he afterwards, from pity, permitted to disappear.

When that horrible conflict between the Gods and the Asuras was over, Indra became the ruler of the The clouds showered rain copiously. three worlds. And the dwellers of the world had abundance of harvests, and were excellent in disposition. And devoted to virtue, they always practised morality and enjoyed peace. And all persons, devoted to the duties of their respective orders, were perfectly happy and cheerful. And the slayer of Vala, beholding all the creatures of the world happy and cheerful, became himself filled with joy. And he of a hundred sacrifices, the chief of the gods, seated on the back of his clephant Airavata, surveyed his happy subjects. And he cast his eyes on delightful asylums of Rishis, on various auspicious rivers, towns full of prosperity, and villages and rural regions in the enjoyment of plenty. And he also cast his eyes upon kings devoted to the practice of virtue and wellskilled in ruling their subjects. And he also looked upon tanks and reservoirs and wells and lakes and smaller lakes all full of water and adored by best of Brāhmanas in the observance, besides, of various excellent vows. (Roy.)

Çrī came and dwelt with Indra (XII,8119). But prosperity made him arrogant. He abused his power and was guilty of heavy crimes (V,874). While he at an earlier period had shewn himself deserving by the invention of arms with which to chastise the Asura's (V,818) and by killing these both in numbers (XII.3660. III,12032 follow., 11908. II,811) as well as individually, further by freeing Tārakā, Vrihaspati's wite (II.889. VII,2004) and Puloma's daughtor (X.599), he, on the other hand, seduced Ahalyā (V.878. XIII,8827), and de-

sired Ruci, Devaçarman's wite (XIII.2200). He killed Namucı although he had formed a friendship with him (IX,2425), and even was guilty of murdering the Brāhmaṇa Viçvarupa Triçiras. This last event is related in V,225, and abridged it reads thus:

Vicvarupa Triciras. Tvastar's threeheaded son practised penance in a high degree. Indra was afraid he would deprive him of his position, he therefore sent a lovely Apsaras to tempt him, but as this did not succeed, Indra slew him with his thunderbolt, and commanded a woodcutter to chop off his head. Tvastar heard what had happened, his eyes reddened with rage, and he said: since Indra has killed my son who has done no harm but constantly been engaged in doing penance; I will create Vritra, and he created Vritra and commanded him to kill Indra. There now tollowed a long war between Vritra and Indra (cfr. XII,10101, 13211. XIV.298). References to this struggle are to be found in many places (see III,1608. VII,2992. VIII,4798). The gods have recourse to Visnu who advises them to make peace, but Vritra will not consent to a reconciliation unless they promise him invulnerability against dry or wet, stone or wood. sword or javelin, by day and by night. Peace was made on these terms and both Vritra and Indra were satisfied. But it was nevertheless Indra's secret and constant wish to kill Vritra. So meeting him once on the sea-shore, he said to himself: now it is neither day nor night, now he can be killed by me, and seeing at the same time a quantity of froth on the sea, he said to himself: this is neither dry nor wet, neither is it a weapon; and he took the froth and cast it towards Vritra together with the thunderbolt which Visnu had entered, and thus did he kill Vritra. But shortly afterwards he became depressed in spirits and downhearted when he reflected on his own duplicity and the Brahmana-murder he had committed. He flew to the farthest corners of the earth. where he lived hidden in the stalk of a lotus in a lake. Then the earth became desolate, for it had no king. The forest withered. The rivers ceased to flow, and the animals perished for want of rain. Then gods and rsis went to Nahusa and persuaded him to be king, But when N. had been crowned a king he also abandoned himself to sensual pleasures. And socing one day the ravishing Caei, Indra's wife, he desired her. asked Vrhaspati to protect her. And Vrhaspati said: thou shalt not be afraid, Indra will soon come back. But Nahusa defended his conduct and said: Indra violated Ahalva, why did you not prevent that? Vrhaspati then advised Caoi to ask for delay in satisfying his importunity. Caci went and asked for postponement, "for no one knows what has become of Indra", she said, and she succeeded in getting postponement. In the meantime the gods sought the advice of Vișnu, who said: let Indra perform a sacrifice of horses to me, then he will regain his position. And an offering of horses was accomplished, which freed Indra from his fear. His hiding place was discovered. Cacī besought him to return and kill the villain Nahuşa. Then, when Nahuşa, at the request of Caoi, to show his greatness and power caused rsis to be harnessed to his chariot, and even set his foot on the holy Agastya's head, then his hour had come. By the help of the gods Indra came back and was again crowned king of the gods, while Nahuşa was cast down from heaven and thereafter for 10,000 years was compelled to wander about the world in the shape of a monster serpent.

The Namuci-myth (IX,sus) agrees in its principal features with the story of Vritra.

There are also many references to this myth in the Mahābhārata. Thus in II,1957. III,11904. VI,8078. VIII,1730.

Nahusa, see p. 90 under Vrtra.

Prahrāda, see XII,4568. 8021.

Vali, see XII.8218. VII.4081.

Sarvakāmadughā, Indra's wishing cow.

Surabhi or Suravi, the divine, beautiful and gentle cow, mother of all cows, gavām mātar, daughter of Daxa prajāpati (I,8027. III,14180. XII,6132. XIII,7638, 5900). She lives in Rasātala, the 7th layer under the earth (V.8002), gives a milk in which is the strength of all the best things on earth, and becomes Svadhā, Sudha and Amṛta for those that live on these drinks (V,8611). In XIII,3713 it is said of Surabhi:

Sûsrjat säurabheyis tu Surabhir lokamātṛkāh

o: But she, Surabhi, created daughters who became the mothers of the world.

According to V. 3600 four of her daughters are called: Surūpā, Hamsikā, Subhadrā and Sarvakāmadughā, who each bear separately the east, the south, the west and the north corners of the heavens. In I 2601 Surabhi is said to have had two other daughters named Rohiņī the happy, and the distinguished Gandharvī.

It is related in III,330 foll. that Surabhi weeps because her sickly son is tormented by the ploughman with the goad.

As a reward for her great penitential exercises on mount Kāilāsa Brahmā bestowed immortality on her and a dwelling in Go-loka above Triloka, the three worlds. (XIII.3803 foll.)

Surabhi's daughter by Kaçyapa is called Sarvakāmadughā or only Kāmadughā (VI.1938) or Kāmaduh, she who grants all wishes (I,0027) also Nandinī, the tascinating. She is the best of all wishing-cows. She is fat and gives abundance of sweet milk, and the mortal who drinks her milk will be for a thousand years like a strong youth. Sho has a beautiful neck and lovely hoofs, and she is furnished with all virtues. Varuni o: Varuna's son Vacistha obtained her as offering cow, homadhonu, but she was once stolen by Dyo (Dyāus) and as a punishment for his orime Dyo had to dwell for a long time on the Earth, in the world of mortals. According to III.2121 Kāmadughā is wishingcow.

Parjanya. In order to arrive at a proper understanding of the fact that in India we meet with a distinct deity for the rainfall, we must first consider what is recorded not only from former times but up to the present day, both of the rain's power and violence and of its utility and blessing for the soil, when the land has been parched by the burning heat of the sun for three whole months.

The hot season begins in April and lasts till about the 20 June, by the end of that time man, animals, and vegetation languish. Concerning this read Kālidāsa's masterly description of Grişma and Varsha in his Ritusamhāra and among modern authors Acland¹) and others. At last when the heat is most powerful, dark clouds show themselves on the horizon, then there comes a few refreshing drops and finally the thunder clouds burst with furious and violent crashes raging with immense might. It seldom lasts more than one or two hours, but what a scene of destruction is to be seen here when it is over: uprooted trees and houses levelled with the ground. The hot season is followed by a rainy season in which the swollen rivers wash the trees from

All small houses have been carried away by the flood and rain, and many people are houseless. This was in the neighbourhood of the great river Ganges. The water increased so much that only the tops of the trees were to be seen above the water.— We have 71/4 inch to day. We are astonished at the great number of trees fallen. There is not a spot where the storm has not done great damage. Santhal Posten for November 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Manners and Customs of India p. 17, 60, 50; there is somothing very grand, though awful in these furious tempest-bursts within the tropics. A few minutes back not a leaf rustled, now the trees are waving to and fro etc. In the night my wife was tossed out of bed. We were in the greatest danger of being drowned. Towards morning, however, the wind abated. The heat was excessive: not a breath of wind stirred the air. Pag. 122: How little is known in England of what a thunderstorm is! At this minute (about ten o'clock in the evening) the rain is pouring down in vast sheets of water rather than in drops. For the last two hours the lightning has not ceased for a minute at a time, whilst the thunder has continued incessantly, varied occasionally by a tremendous crash which bursts immediately above the house and shakes it to its very foundation. Add to this the roaring of the sea and the howling of the wind . . . at this station most of the European houses are blown down once in two or three years . . . I find that the depth of water which fell in the two hours and a half that the storm continued was one inch and a half, a quantity which in England, I believe, would not fall without many days of rain.

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the banks and carry them away with them on their violent course. In the Mahābhārata there are many references to these heavy storms and floods of rain.

Tatah kadācit tasyatha vanasthasya samantatah Pātayann iva vrxāms tān sumahan vatasambhramah, meghasankulam akaçam vidyunmandalamanditain, Sanchannas tu muhürtena nāusārthāir iva sāgarah. vāridhārā samūhana samprayrstah Catakratuli xanena pürayam asa salilana vasundharam. tato dhārākule kale sambhraman nastacetanah cītārtas tad vanam sarvam ā kulenāntarā tmanā nâiva nimnam sthalam vâpi so 'vindata vihangaha, pūrito hi jalaughena tasya mārgo, vanasya tu paxino varsavegena hata līnas tadābhavan, mrgasimhavarāhāç ca thalam āçritya çerate, mahatā vātavarsena trāsitās te vanāukasah bhayartaç ca xudhartaç ca babhramuh sahitā vane. XII.5477. 2: Once while he was in the forest a violent whirlwind arose which nearly overthrew the trees on all sides. The atmosphere which was full of clouds. was ornamented by a circle of lightning. It was for an instant just like a sea covered with ships and caravans. Catakratu who had begun to rain with a quantity of raindrops filled in an instant the earth with water. Thereupon, at that time. when everything was overfilled with water, running about all over the wood, distraught, suffering from cold, with bewildered senses that birdcatcher found neither lowland nor continent (where he might dwell), for his way was filled with water-courses. birds of the forest killed by the fury of the rain or dying, and deer, lions and boars, sought the mainland and lay down to rest frightened by the heavy storm and rain, and tortured by fear and hunger, they wandered about, all together in the wood.

> Te samāsādya Kāunteyam āvṛṇvañ charavṛṣṭibhih parvataṁ vāridhārābhih prāvṛṣīva balāhakah. VII,5685, 5947.

o: They attacked Kunti's son and covered him with a rain of arrows as the clouds in the rainy season (deluge) the mountain with floods of rain.

Parjanya denotes originally only the rain-cloud, for in this signification it is very often used as neuter, thus for instance in II.1621:

Apramatto sthito nityam prajāh pāhi viçāmpate

parjanyam iva bhūtāni mahādrumam iva dvijāh.

o: Be always indefatigable, protect beings, o Prince. as the rain-cloud (benefits) the creatures as the birds (seek shelter) in the large tree.

But later the rain-cloud was personified, and Parjanya used in the sense of the Raingod, f. i.

> Tatah sāyakavarṣena Parjanya iva vṛṣṭimān parān avakirat Pārthah parvatān iva nīradah. VII,8158.

o: Thereupon Partha overwhelmed the enemy with a rain of arrows, even as Parjanya followed by rain, (and) as the cloud (deluges) the mountains.

Pṛthivīm lāngalencha
bhittvā vijam vapaty-uta
āste 'yam karşakah tuṣṇīm,
Parjanyas tatra karaṇam, III,1248
vṛṣṭiç cen nānugṛḥṇiyād
anenās tatra karṣakah. III,1248.

v: After having broken the earth with the plough-share the ploughman sows the seed, (thereupon) he sits in silence, the reason is that he waits for Parjanya, if the rain does not favour him, it is not his fault.

## Of Parjanya it is said:

Samyag varṣati Parjanyah
çasyasampada uttamāh III,13217, 10016. VII,8158.

5: Parjanya rained plentifully (and forwarded) the richest harvest.

In the list of Āditya's in XIX,11518 and I,4821 1) Harivamça 18118 and in other places Parjanya is noted as an independent god equal to Indra.

But that Parjanya is originally identical with Indra seems to appear from XIV.2856-59, where it is said:

Tathā ty-anekāir munibhir mahantah kratavah kṛtāh evamvidhe tv-Agastyasya vartamāne tathādhvane Na vavarṣa Sahasrāxas, tadā Bharatasattama tatah karmāntare rājann Agastyasya mahātmanah kathêyam abhinirvṛttā munīnām bhāvitātmanām: Agastyo yajamāno 'sāu dadāty-annam vimatsarah na ca varṣati Parjanyah katham annam bhaviṣyati.

o: For thus great sacrifices were made, but when such an offering was likewise undertaken by Agastya, Indra did not rain. Thereupon during the sacrificial act this conversation took place between the holy monks: this A. who offers a sacrifice, gives food generously, still Parjanya raineth not, how then can there be food.

The absence of rain, as we well know, causes the great and constantly recurring famine in India even now.

<sup>1)</sup> In the last place P. is the 13th, although in the same place it is said that there are 12 Aditya's.

## 4. Varuna.

Varuna from var, to surround. means in all probability originally the heavenly sea of light which surrounds all things; Varuna is especially to be understood as referring to the light of the night, whilst Mittra, with whom Varuna is often combined, means the light of day. Such expressions as puttro Aditer and sitaprabhas may thus be explained.

Tato väidüryavarņabho bhūsayan sarvato diçah yādogaņavṛtah çrīmūn ūjaguma Jaleçvarah III,1868.

o: Therupon having the lazur stone's shining blue colour and surrounded by a host of aquatic animals, lighting up the heavens on all sides, the glorious lord of the waters appeared.

> Puttro 'diter mahābhāgo Varuņo väi sitaprabhah IX,2811.

o: Aditi's son, the happy, Varuna with the white radiance.

And when Varuna and Mittra are combined, they seem to denote the highest radiance and glory.

bhrātus puttrān pradāsyāmi Mittra-Varuņayos samān I,4266. XIII,7666. III.8797.

o: I will give my brother children who resemble Mittra and Varuna.

But in the Mahābhārata Varnņa appears only as the God of the ocean, lakes and water courses under the following names: Apāmpati (V,8527. IX,7428), Jaleçvara (XIII,7245. VII,8194), Jalādhipa (XIII,7862), Vāripa (XIII,7259), Udakapati (V.8681), Nadīpati (IX,2785), sarvāsām saritām pati (IX,2781), Yādasām bhartr (III.1670). As Lord of the waters he also rules over the Asura's. (XII,1160.) And according to IX,2788 he was unanimously appointed by the gods to this supremacy at the beginning of the Krtayuga.

His realm lies in the west (XIII,4866) and is rich and happy.

Pasyôdakapateh sthānam sarvato bhadram ṛddhimat V,3531.

and the ocean is his dwelling, sagaro Varunalayo (V,5603. I,1210. IX,2781). In III.12077 follow. I.1297 follow. the ocean is described with its contents: naga's, monsters, ampta, vadava, precious stones etc. In XII, the saltness of the sea is explained. In V.8563 (cfr. 1589) there is mention of an egg deposited in the sea from which at the end of the world flames will burst forth and burn up the whole of the three worlds, triloka.

His city, pura, (XIII,7245) the most beautiful in the world, shines with many palaces, with Apsaras'es and divine pleasures.

His palace, bhavana, is entirely of gold  $(\nabla, 5685)$ , and there he has a sunshade, chattra, from which cooling waters drip  $(\nabla, 3541)$ .

Varuna has (II,355 follow.) an incomparably resplendent as sembly-hall, sabhā, with walls and gates. It was built by Viçvakarman in the midst of the waters, and it is furnished with divine trees which consist of pearls and produce fruit and flowers of all colours. Bushes with lovely singing birds are there to be found. In this hall Varuna sits with his wife, surrounded by Nāga's, Dāitya's, Dānava's and many other beings.

In III,1001 Varuna is described as being dark blue like the cloud, jaladharacyāma.

His wife's name is Siddhi (XII,11085) or Gāurī¹ (XIII,6751, 7687) or Vāruņī² (II.358).

His son, Puşkara (V.s.s.s., is married to Soma's daughter Jyotsnākālī, and the connection between Varuna and Soma is in IX,2785 expressed thus:

Samudro 'yam tava vaçe bhavişyati nadīpatih, Somena sārdhañ ca tava hānivṛddhī bhaviṣyatah.

o: This sea, lord of the rivers, will submit to thee, and as well as for Soma will there also for thee be flow and ebb.

His minister, mantrin, is called Sunabha (II,480).

Like Yama, Varuna has a noose, he is pāçavat. (VI,1186), dharmapāçadhara (II.869). See further XII.8801, 8828, 3551. III.1693.

And he has a trumpet. çankha, which Viçvakarman skilfully had fashioned from a thousand goldcoins (II,1922).

## The Deeds of Varuna.

Soma deemed the brāhmaṇa Utathya to be a suitable husband for his exceedingly beautiful daughter, and in the course of time Soma's father Atri, invited Utathya to his house, and presented him with the girl. But

<sup>1</sup> The wife of Civa is also called Gauri.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Roy understands Varuni here as the queen of Varuna. But according to Ramayana I,45, so (Bombay Edition) Varuni is Varunasya kanya, Varuna's daughter.

it became known that the handsome Varuna had long desired her and coming one fine day to the forest where Utathya lived he stole her after she had gone into the water to bathe, and he brought her home to his own palace and amused himself with her there. But when Utathya heard of this he said to Nārada: go to Varuna and say that he must give me back my wife. Nārada went, but Varuna refused to comply with his request. Then Utathya became inflamed with rage, and on the strength of the number of his sacrifices, he drank up all the waters (cfr. Agastya III,8797). Then Varuna became faint-hearted and his relatives and friends like-Still he would not restore the wife of Utathya. Then Utathya commanded the Earth: let there be land where before there where 600,000 lakes, and the earth became arid there. And to the rivers he said: o river disappear in the desert. When thus the region had become waste, Varuna took at last Utathya's wife with him and delivered her to Narada. And when Utathaya received his wife he was again happy, and released the world and Varuna from their grief (XIII,7840 follow.).

# 5. Vișņu.

If we abide by the elder part of the myth of Viṣṇu, and as far as possible leave all that respecting Kṛṣṇa out of the question, the latter clearly showing itself to be a newer addition or retouching of the subject, we shall find that, after Vṛṣṇu the names Nārāyaṇa ānd Hari are those which most frequently occur in the Mahābhārata. When he sometimes is also called Devadeva, the God of the gods, this is only an appellation through which his worshippers wish to increase

his reputation. Respecting his many other names see below.

He is one of the Aditya's. In V,3503 we read:

Ādityānām hi sarveṣām Viṣṇur ekah sanātanah ajayaç câvyayaç câiva çāçvatah prabhur īçvarah.

o: For of all the Aditya's Vişnu alone is enduring, unconquerable and imperishable, the everlasting and mighty lord.

And he was the youngest of them (I,2600). In Rigveda Viṣṇu is often mentioned together with Indra, and in the Mahābhārata V,8759. III,480 he is called Vāsava's (Indra's) younger brother Vāsavāvaraja.

His dwelling is on the top of Mount Mandara (V,280, cfr. I,1112 and the churning of the ocean) to the east of Meru (III,11860) and to the north of Milk-Sea (VI,300).

Brahmanah sadanād ūrdhvam tad Viṣṇoh paramam padam cuddham sanātanam jyotih

Parambrahmêti yari viduh (III,1548, cfr. XI,858).

o: Higher than Brahmā's seat is that Viṣṇu's highest place, the pure, the everlasting light which they call Parambrahma.

> Na tatra vipra gacchanti puruṣā viṣayātmakāh dambhalobhamahākrodhamohadrohair abhidrutāh, nirmamā nirahaūkārā nirdvandvāh samyatendriyāh

dhyānayogaparāç câiva tatra gaodanti mānavāh (III,15189).

o: There they who are ensuared by sensual things come not (neither) they who are governed by decoit, covetousness, anger, stupidity and violence. But thither go, they who are unselfish, without egotism, without doubt, with controlled senses, they who are absorbed in contemplation and devotion.

Even Brahmarşi's and Maharşi's come not there, but only Yati's, that is to say, such as have mastered their passions (III,11861-63).

His person. He has Lotus eyes, padmalocana (L1117). According to III, 15033. XIII, 6961, 6891 he has four arms, he is caturbhuja. On his broast he has a mark, crīvatsa (III, 1096) therefore he is called crīvatsavaxas (III,7018) salaxanoraska (MBh. Calc. vol. 3 p. 833 at the top) and crivatsanka (1,2507. VI,2008. XIII,0808). He received this mark, when the great sage Bharadvājā threw water on him because he disturbed him while at prayer. On his breast he wears the divine jewel Kaustubha (I,1147. VI,2898) which came forth from the churning of the ocean (see above). A lotus sprang from his navel when he lay in contemplation, and in that Brahmā with the four faces (III,15820) appeared. Therefore Visnu is often called Padmanābha, having a lotus navel (I,1218, 2508. VI,9298. XIII,6870, 6988. cording to Kālidāsa's Meghadūta 57 he has a blue foot. His raiment is yellow, pītavāsas (I,2506).

His couch or bed is the serpent Çeşa or Ananta (I,1118), who holds the earth at Brahmā's command

(1,1581), and on which Viṣṇu rests in Yoga-sleep (III.19557. XII,18511); ofr. infra.

He has a golden chariot with 8 wheels, which is as quick as thought:

Xīrodasya samudrasya
Tathâivôttaratah prabhuh
Harir vasati Vaikunthah
çakate kanakāmaye.
Aṣṭacakram hi tad yānam
bhūtayuktam manojavam
agniva!rṇam etc. (VI,300).

o: And to the north of the Milky ocean dwells the lord Hari Väikuntha on a chariot of gold, eight wheels has his chariot, it is harnessed with demons, it is quick as thought and has the colour of fire.

His sign or standard is the bird Garuda (XIII,6820. I,1510); cfr. supra.

Viṣṇu's weapons are: first a çankha, a war trumpet, cfr. VII,0021, then a cakra, a discus called Sudarçana (I.1178. 1186) and further a gadā a club (VI,2986. XIII,596), and he is therefore called çankhacakragadādhara; cakreṇa nihatā Dāityāh, with the cakra the Dāitya's are killed (I.1177, 1186. XIII,6015). Besides these he oarries a bow called Çārnga (VI,2987), after which he is named Çārngadhanurdhara (VI,2037). When Nārāyaṇa astra is spoken of in VII,9018. 9209 etc. and Vāiṣṇava astra in VII,1278, Viṣṇu's bow is probably meant.

Visnu's wife is Laxmī who came forth during the churning of the ocean (I,1146). She is also called Qrī,

and is the Goddess of Fortune and Beauty. In XII,8155 is said: They call me Bhūti, Laxmī, Çrī, thus also in 8554; likewise Padmā in 8558, wise men call her Duhsahā, difficult to bear. In XIII,507 follow. people with whom Çrī dwells are spoken of

Nāiva devo na gandharvo nāsuro na ca rāxasah yo mām eko visahitum çaktah kaçcit purandara (XII,8161).

o: Neither is there any god whatsoever, or gandharva to be found, or asura, or rāxasa, not one who is able to bear me, o Purandara.

In XIII,8861 it says:

Adhruvā capalā ca tvam sāmānyā bahubhih saha.

o: Inconstant and capricious art thou and associatest with many.

According to XII,2252 a lotus sprang from Visnu's forehead, and out of that came Qrī who became one of the wives of Dharma o: Yama (I,2579).

Observe a conversation between Grī and Gakra in XII,8885 follow.

Viṣṇu's names. Viṣṇu has like Çiva many names. In XIII,6888 we read:

Jagatprabhum Devadevam anantam purusottamam stuvan nāmasahasreņa purusah satatotthitah...bhavet.

o: To praise with a thousand names the Ruler of the world, the God of gods the infinite highest being one must always be ready. And in XIII, 1911 follow. his thousand names are enumerated. An Indian explanation of some of these we have in V,2500 follow. XII,18131, but that we cannot rely upon it, may be seen at once from the interpretation that is given of the word Visnu which is derived from the root vih, to grow, from which we have vihat, great. It is said there namely:

Vrhatvād Visnur ucyate
o: on account of his greatness he is called Visnu.

An equally fantastic explanation of the predicate sanatana is to be found in XII,7650. Monier Williams translates the word Visau by all pervading, as he thinks it comes from vis or vic, to pervade. Grassmann is of the same opinion. Lusson, on the contrary, solves it visau from vi, tueri.

Whether all these names may be classed under certain definite headings, I cannot say, I will leave it to others to make the attempt. But it appears to me, that when it already is the case with most of the god-forms in the Rigveda that they melt into one another and are destitute of any defined and limited character, then this must still more be the case regarding a divinity like Visnu to whom a thousand names are ascribed. For if the names are to be nāmāni gāuņāni (XIII,6948) that is to say, containing definite qualities, and the names are numberless, it is easily seen that the god-forms evaporate through the multiplicity of the names. Most of these, therefore, do not mean any real quality appertaining to the said god, but are merely bestowed upon him to increase his reputation. His followers have wished to prove his greatness by ascribing to him a number of names, but 'have demonstrated too much and therefore proved nothing.

We must here in addition remark that Visnu in the eyes of his worshippers assumes the character of Brahma, in the same way as Civa does in the eyes of his followers. See XII 10070 follow. VI,1216 follow.

I can only discover two more prominent phases of Visnu's character, viz. his yoga, devotion, and his power of salvation.

Yoga means union and is derived from yul (yuñl) = the latin jungere, but it is difficult to find a corresponding expression for it when used in a religious sense about the amalgamation, fusion and oneness with the divinity which takes place during contemplation, devotion and resignation. The definition given in Pātaūjalam Yogasūtram is as follows: yogaç cittavṛttinirodhas, o: suppression of the working of thought. B-&R. and Mittra translate it thus yoga is the suppression of the functions of the thinking principle.

There are not a few places in the Mahābhārata where Yoga is treated of and Visnu in connection with yoga. Thus in III.17120. XII,7129, 8789, 6861, 10210, 12163 12518 etc. In III 12576 it says:

Ekārņave tathā loke
naṣṭe sthāvarajañgame
pranaṣṭeṣu ca bhūtesu
sarveṣu Bharatarṣabha
Prabhavam lokakartāram
Viṣṇum çāçvatam avyayam
yam āhur munayah siddhāh
sarvaloka-maheçvaram

Susvāpa Bhagavān Visnur apsu yogata eva sah nägasya bhoge mahati Çeşasyâmitatejasah, Lokakartā mahābhāga Bhagavān acyuto Harih nāgabhogena mahatā parirabhya mahīm imām, Svapatas tasya devasya Padmam sūryasamaprabham nābhyām vinihsrtam divyam, tatrotpannah pitamahah Sāxāl lokagurur Brahmā padme sūryasamaprabhe caturvedac caturmūrtis tathâiya oa caturmukhah.

p: When thus the world had become one ocean and all fixed and moveable things had been destroyed, and all beings had perished, then that great Vișnu slept on the water, he whom the blessed Muni's call the beginning, the creator of the world, the everlasting, imperishable Visnu, the whole world's great lord, sunk in yoga (resting) on the serpent's, the glorious Qesa's coil, the exalted Visnu slept, the creator of the world, the sublime Hari lay motionless, encircling this world with his great serpent While the god slept a divine lotus sprang coil. from his navel, this lotus shone like the sun, and in this sunlike lotus rose at once (the world's) grand-father and master Brahmā with the 4 Veda's, and having four shapes and 4 faces.

He is therefore called Yogin (VI,2093. XII,11067. 7686), Mahāyogin (XII,7680, 18540) and Yogamāya (XIII,6823).

His upholding and salvation power shows itself in his incarnations (embodiments). In XII,19866 it says:

Jātā hîyam vasumatī bhārākrāntā tapasvinī, Bahavo balinah prthvyām Dāitya-Dānava-Rāxasāh bhavişyanti, tapoyuktā varan prapsyanti côttaman, Avaçyam eva tāih sarvāir varadānena darpitāih bādhitavyāh suraganā rsayac ca tapodhanah, Tatra nyāyyam idam kartum bhārāvataranam mavā atha nānāsamudbhūtāir vasudhāyam yathākramam: Nigrahena ca pāpānām sādhūnām pragrahena ca iyam tapasvinī satyā dhārayisyati medinī, Mayā by-eṣā bi dhriyati pātālasthena bhoginā, maya dhṛtā dhārayati jagad viçvam caracaram, Tasmāt pṛthvyāh paritrānam karisve sambhavam gatah, evam sancintayitva tu Bhagavan Madhusüdanah

Rūpāny-anekāny-aṣṛjat prādurbhāve bhavāya sah vārāham nārasimhan ca vāmanam mānuṣyam tathā.

o: This earth has been overwhelmed by burdens and is suffering, many and strong will the Dāitya's, Dānava's and Raxasa's become on the earth, and applying themselves to penances they will receive very great rewards; by all these, who will be proud of that giving of gifts, it will be a matter of course that crowds of Sura's should be suppressed, and likewise sages rich in penitence; it is therefore only right that I should remove these burdens through and by the help of different beings who shall come into existence upon earth in succession; both by restraining the bad and by protecting the good shall this suffering and honest earth endure; by me in the shape of a servent from the infernal regions shall it be upheld, and it (again) will support all creation, movable and immovable, therefore will I enter into existence and save the world; thinking thus the high Madhusūdana created some forms for the purpose of revealing himself, such as a boar, a man-lion, a dwarf and a man.

I have only found one place which seems to confirm the current tradition of Brahmā as Creator, of Viṣṇu as Upholder and of Qiva as Destroyer, viz. III,15824, which reads as follows:

Srjati Brahmamürtis tu, raxate päuruşi tanuh.

Rāudrībhāvena çamayet, tisro 'vasthāh Prajāpateh.

o. In the form of Brahmā he creates, in the form af Puruṣa he preserves in the form of Rudra he destroys (these are) Prajāpati's three functions.

Of Viṣnu's Avatāra's (descents) i. e. incarnations (embodiments) which in Sanskrit literature occur in different numbers, we mention the following treated of in the Mahābhārata.

1. As a Dwarf, vāmana, or Viṣṇu's three strides. In III,158% we read the following story:):

Evam nihatya Bhagavan Dāityendram ripughātinam bhūyo 'nyah pundarīkāxah prabhur lokahitāya ca Kaçyapasyâtmajah çrīmün Adıtya garbhadharıtah, pūrne varsasahasre tu prasūtā garbham uttamam, Durdinambhodasadrco dîptāxo Vāmanākṛtih dandî kamandaludharah crīvatsorasi bhūşitah, Jātī yajñopavītī ca Bhagavān bālarūpadhṛk, yajñavätam gatah çrîmān Dānavendrasya vāi tadā

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The germs of this and the following incarnation are already to be found in the Rigveda, see Macdonell in the Journal of the R. A Soc. 1895 p. 165.

Vrhaspati-sahāyo 'sāu pravisto Valino makhe, tam drstvā Vāmanatanum prahrsto Valir abravit: Preto 'smi darçane vipra, brūhi tvam kim dadāni te; evam uktas tu Valina Vāmanah pratyuvāca ha, Svastîty-uktvā Valim devah smayamāno 'bhyabhāşata: medinīm Danavapate dehi me vikramatrayam, Valir dadāu prasannatma viprāyamitatejase, tato divyadbhutatamain rūpam vikramato Hareh Vikramais tribhir axobhyo jaharâçu sa medinîm dadāu Çakrāya ca mahīm Visnur devah sanātanah, Eșa te Vāmano nāma pradurbhāvah prakirtitah.

o: Having thus slain the enemy-killer, the chief of the Dāitya's, the lotus-eyed lord, happily for the world, was again conceived as Kaçyapa's beautiful son in Aditi's womb, but when a thousand years had passed away she bore the most supreme foster who was like the cloud on a rainy day, had shining eyes, was in the shape of a dwarf, bore staff and a jar, and whose breast was ornamented with the crīvatsa-mark, he had matted hair, and was of the height of a boy, he carried a sacrificial cord.

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The glorious one went straight to the Dānava's place of sacrifice, accompanied by Vrhaspati he stepped into the midst of the sacrificial congregation, seeing him in the shape of a dwarf Vali said glad: I am pleased to see thee Brāhmaṇa, what shall I give thee? Spoken to thus by Vali the dwarf answered, and after having said all hail, the god turned smilingly to Vali and said: o Dānava-prince, give me 3 feet of ground. Vali gladly gave the incomparable Brāhmaṇa (what he asked for). Thereupon at the same time Hari displaying his divine and most marvellous form firmly took the whole earth in 3 hasty strides, and the eternal Viṣṇu gave it to Çakra (Indra). This is the famous revelation, called the Dwarf's, that has been told thee.

This story is referred to in V.200 where it says:

Ucuç ca sarvadeveçam Vişnum Vrtrabhayarditah trayo lokās tvayā krāntās tribir vikramaņāih purā,

# and in III,13501:

Devānām mānuṣānān ca sarvabhūtasukhāvahah, tribhir vikramaṇair deva trayo lokās tvayā hṛtāh.

He is therefore also named Trivikrama (XIII.8892, 7743).

2. As a Boar, varāha. In III,15826 we read as follows:

Jalena samanuprāpte sarvatah pṛthivītale tadā câikarnave tasminn ekākāce prabliuc caran Nicāyām iva khadyotah prāvrtkāle samantatah pratisthānāya prthivīm mārgamānas tadābhavat, Jale nimagnām gām dṛṣṭvā côddharitum manaséochati kin nu rūpam aham krtvā salilād uddhare mahīm Evam sancintva manasa drstvā divyena caxusā jalakridabhirucitam varāham rūpam asmarat, Krtvā varāhavapusam vänmuyam vedasammitam dacayojanavistīrnain āyatam çatayojanam Mahāparvatavarşmābham tīxnadamstram pradīptimat mahā meghā ughanirghoşam nīlajīmūtasannibham Bhūtvā yajñavarāho vāi apah samprāvicat prabhuh, damstrenâikena côddhrtya sve sthāne nyaviçan mahīm

o: When all the surface of the earth was flooded with water then the Lord, as he wandered about in this entire sea and in this air, like a firefly in the night in the rainy season, sought everywhere (for a place) to fix the earth upon, and when he saw the earth under water and secretly wished to save it, (the 'said to himself:) what shape shall I assume to save the earth from the waters, as he thus turned the matter over in his mind and saw with his divine eyes, he thought of the shape of a boar which animal loves to play in the water, and when he had given himself a boar's body that could speak and which agreed with the traditions of the Veda's, ten yojana's broad and a hundred yojana's long, resembling a great mountain in shape, shining with sharp tusks, thundering like a mass of clouds, and resembling a dark cloud, then the Lord descended like an offering-boar into the water, drew the earth up with one of his tusks and set it back in its place.

This is often referred to, f. i. I,1216, III,10027, 10950. XII,7617, 7628. In XIII.6016 it is said that he, in the form of a boar, slew Hiranyāxa

Vārāham rūpam āsthaya Hiraņyāxo nipātitah.

3. As Man-lion, nr. and narasimha. See III,15888:

Punar eva mahābāhur apūrvam tanum ācritah, narasya kṛtvārdhatanum simhasyārdhatanum prabhuh Dāityendrasya sabhām gatvā (gatah?) pāṇim samspṛçya pāṇinā Dāityānām ādipuruṣah surārir Ditinandanah Dṛṣṭvā cāpūrvavapuṣam krodhat samraktalocanah çūlodyatakarah sragvī Hiranyakaçipus tadā

Meghastanitanirghoso
nīlābracayasannibhah
devārir Ditijo vīro
Nṛṣiṁhaṁ samupādravat,
Samupetya tatas tīxṇāir
mṛgendreṇa baliyasā
nārasiṁhena vapuṣā
dāritah karajāir bhṛgaṁ. (Cfr. XII,18810.)

o: On another occasion the strong-armed one assumed a hitherto unknown shape; after having formed the one half of his body like a man and the other half like a lion the Lord went to the chief of the Daitya's assemblage, and when the chief of the Dāitya's, the foe of the Sura's, and the son of Diti, Hiranyakacipu had rubbed one hand against the other, and his eyes met a hitherto unknown body he ran with oyes fired with anger, with a trident in his upraised hand and wearing a wroath, rumbling like a thunder cloud and resembling a collection of dark blue clouds, he the enemy of the gods, Diti's son, the hero, ran towards the Man-lion, and when they then collided he was torn to pieces by the sharp claws of the powerful king of beasts in the shape of a man-lion.

# 4. As a Horse's Head, hayaçiras. See XII,18478.

... atha tāu Dānavaçresthāu Vedān grhya sanātanān rasām viviçatus tūrņam udakpūrve mahodadhāu, tato hṛteṣu Vedeṣu Brahmā kaçmalam āviçat,

tato vacanam Içanam prāha Vedair vinākrtali:

Brahmôvāca: Vedā me paramam caxur Vedā me paramam balam Vedā me paramam dhāma Vedā me Brahma côttarmam, Mama Vedā hrtāh sarve Dānavābhyām balārditah, andhakārā hi me lokā jātā Vedāir vinākrtāh. Vedān rte hi kim kuryām, lokānām srstim uttamām, aho vata mahad duhkham Vedanācanajam mama Prāptam dunoti hṛdayam tīvram, cokaparayanam, ko hi çokā inave magnani mām ito 'dya samuddharet Vedāms tāmç cânayen nastān kasya caham priyo bhave. ıty-evam bhaşamanasya brahmano nrpasattama Hares stotrartham udbhūtā. buddhir buddhimatām yara. tato jagāu param japyam prānjalipragrahah prabhuh:

Brāhmôvāca: [Om] namas te Brahmahrdaya namas te mama pürvaja lokadya bhuvanaçıştha ---Te me Vedā hrtāç caxur. andho jāto 'smı jāgrhi, dadasva caxūmsi mama

priyo 'ham te priyo 'sı me, Evam stutah sa Bhagayān purusah sarvatomukhah jahāu nidrām atha, tadā vedakāryārtham udyatah Āiçvaryena prayogena dvitīyān tanum asthitah, sunāsikena kāyena bhūtvā candraprabhas tadā Krtvā hayaçirah çubhram Vedānām ālayah prabhuh, Etad dhayaçırah krtva nānāmūrtibhir āvitain antardadhau sa vicveço viveça ca rasam prabhuh ---Etasmım antare rajan devo hayacirodharah jagrāha Vedān akhilân rasatalagato Harih Prādāc ca Brahmane blūyas, tatah svām prakrtim gatah sthapayıtva hayaçira udakpūrve mahodadhāu... Atha vudham samabhavat tayor Nărāyanasya vái, rajastamovistatanü tāv ubhāu Madhu-Kāitabhāu Brahmano 'pacitim kurvan jagbāna Madhusūdanah.

o. Thereupon those two most exalted among the Dānava's took the eternal Veda's and stepped quickly into the water in the north-east sea; when thus the Veda's were stolen sorrow took possession of Brahmā, and robbed of the Veda's he spoke as follows to Içana (Visnu): The Veda's are my best eyes, the Veda's are my best strength, the Veda's are my best abode, the Veda's are for me the best Brahma, all my Veda's are stolen from me by the two Danava's, my strength is gone, the worlds have become dark to me without the Veda's, (without) the Veda's which are the best creation in the world, certainly great anguish which arises from the loss of the Veda's torments my heart, a sharp (pain) full of sorrow; who will save me who is plunged in a sea of sorrow, and bring the lost Veda's back again and to whom am I endeared; while Brahmā spoke thus, o most exalted of princes, it occurred to him that he had better extol Hari, and trying with folded hands to win his favour, the Lord uttered the following prayer. Praise be to thee, o thou heart of Brahmā, honour to thee, who art born before me, o thou who art the first born of the world, the best of existence... those my Veda's which are my eves, are stolen. I have become blind, wake up, give me my eyes, I am dear to thee, and thou art dear to me; being thus praised that high being with faces on all sides awoke, and in order to regain the Veda's he, using power and exertion, assumed another form; after having obtained a body with a handsome nose, he shone like the moon, and when he had fashioned himself a shining horse's head then the Lord was the habitation of the Veda's... After having made himself this horse's head which was hidden in different shapes, the alKRSNA. 121

mighty one disappeared and the Lord stepped into the water... In the meanwhile the god with the horse's head, you Hari, who had gone down to the bottom of the sea, seized all the Veda's and restored them to Brahmā, thereupon he again assumed his proper shape after having deposited the horse's head in the north-east sea. — Thereupon a struggle took place between those two (Asura's) and Nārāyaṇa, and both of them, Madhu and Kāiṭabha, who had a body ensnared in passion and darkness, were killed by Madhusūdana in honour of Brahmā.

### 5. As Kṛṣṇa. In III,15848 it is said:

Asatām nigraharthāya dharmasamraxanāya ca avatīrņo manusyānām ajāyata Yadu-xaye, Sa eṣa Bhagavān Viṣṇuh Kṛṣnêti parikīrtyate.

o: Te restrain evil people and to take care of dharma, descended to mankind, he was born in the family of the Yadu's; that high Viṣṇu is extolled under the name of Kṛṣṇa.

The details in the story of Kṛṣṇa must be looked for in the Harivamça and in the Bhāgavata-Purāna and other later works. The myth of Kṛṣṇa's hast at last overgrown the Viṣṇu-myth, in spite of Kṛṣṇa's divinity being early disputed, see Çiçupālavadhaparvan in the Mahābh. II,1418.

The Açvaçiras-incarnation and the Kṛṣṇa-incarnation, occurring in the Mahābhārata, do not belong to the usual 10 Incarnations of Visnu, and of these the Matsya-incarnation is in the MBh. referred to Brahmā, and the Kūrma-incarnation (I,1122) has no connection with Visnu.

### 'Vișnu's heroic Deeds.

Viṣṇu's incarnations and his exploits stand in close connection with one another. We first mention in a general sense that he wars with the Asura's either alone

> Prāpnotv-amitavīryaçrir adya Pārtho vasundharām etām purā Viṣṇur iva hatvā Dāiteya-Dānavān VIII,8000. III,5018. V,290. VIII,2805.

o: Let the very mighty and glorious Pṛthā's son win the earth to-day like Viṣṇu of yore after having killed the Dāitya's and the Dānava's; or in connection with Indra (II,ess), Viṣṇu going into the thunderbolt of Indra (XII,10128, 10158). He is therefore called. Asurasūdana (V.200).

But individual Asura's killed by him are also named separately. We have already seen under his incarnations how he kills Vali (cfr. Meghadūta 57), Hiraņyāxa, Hiraņyakaçipu, Madhu and Kāiṭabha (IX,2850). Furthermore Naraka is mentioned (III,10910) who desired Indra's position (VII,7879), Maya, and (III,8700) Jambha, the great bowman who disturbed the sacrifices.

- B. Apsaras'es. Gandharva's. Cāraņa's.
- a. Apsaras'es are the gods' female dancers, clever in dancing and singing (II,301). They are described as being uncommonly beautiful, with lotus eyes slender waists and swelling hips. By ravishing postures, roguish and sweet conversation they rob the spectator of thought and intellect. They deck heroes with wreaths and precious stones (VIII.2853, 4840). In heaven they serve Çakra.

Etāç cânyāç ca nanṛtus
tatra tatra sahasraçah
cittaprasādane yuktah
Siddhanām padmalocanāh
Mahākatitaṭaç roṇyah
kampamānaih payodharaih
kaṭāxahāvamādhuryāiç
cetobuddhimanoharaih. III.1780.

o: And these and others danced in thousands here and there, busied in winning the spectator's thought, having the lotus eyes of the Siddha's, full hips and buttocks, with trembling breasts, with roguishness and grace which stole thought, sense and mind.

In III,1805 Urvaçī is called su çronī. When she tried to tempt Arjuna, she is described as follows:

Nirgamya candrodayane
vigādhe rajanīmukhe
prasthitā sā pṛthuçroņi
Pārthasya bhavanam prati
Mṛdukuñcitadīrgheņa
kusumotkaradhāriņā

kecahastena lalanā jagāmātha virājatī Bhrūxepālāpamā dhuryāih kantyā sāumyatayapi ca çaçinanı vaktracandrena sā hvayantīva gacchatī Divyāngarāgāu sumukhāu divyacandanarūşitāu gacchantyā hāravikacāu stanāu tasvā vavalgatuh, Stanodvahanasamxobhān namyamānī pade pade tribalidāmacitrena madhyenatīvā çobhinā Adhobhūdharavistīrņam nitambonnatapīvaram manmathāyatanam çubhram rasanādāmabhūsitam Rşīnām api divyānām manovyāghātakāranam sūxmavastradharam reje jaghanam niravadyavat Güdhagulphadharāu pādāu tāmrāyatatalāngulī kurmaprethonnatau capi çobhete kiñkinīkināu Sīdhupānena câlpena tustâtha madanena ca vilāsanāiç ca vividhāih prexaniyatarâbhavat, Siddha-Cārana-Gandharvāih sā prayātā vilāsinī

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bahvāçanrye 'pi vāi Svarge darçanīyatamā kṛtih
Susūxmeņottarīyeṇa
meghavarṇena rājatā
tanur abhrāvṛtā vyomni
candralekhêva gaochatī — — III,1891.

### In IX,12826 it is said:

Dṛṣṭvâpsarasam āyāntīm Ghṛtācīm pṛthulocanām.

### and in III, JO18

(Bāimī) mām upastasyati vyaktam divi Qakram ivāpsarāh.

In Visua class of Apsaras'es is named called Vidyutprabha, 10 in number.

In Il,392 we find the following names of Apsaras'es:

Pramlocã Micrakeçî Rambhā Urvaçi Citresenã Irā Vargā Cusismitā Saurabheyi Cārunetrā Samîcî Ghṛtācī Vudvudī Menakā Puñjikasthalā Latã

Viçvācī Sahajanyā

In III.1784:

Ghṛtācī Pūrvacitti Menakā Svayamprabhā

Rambhā Urvaçī

Miçrakeçi Prajāgarā
Daṇḍagāurî Cittrasenā
Varūthinī Cittralekhā

Gopālī Sahā

Sahajanyā Madhurasvanā

Kumbhayoni 17

#### and in XIII,1424:

Sukecī Urvarā. Sumukhi Micrakeçi Hāsinī Rambhā Prabhã Urvaçi Vidyutā Alambusā Prathami Ghrtaci Danta. Mittra Oitrāngadā Vidvota Rati Rucī

Manoharā 19

Of these names 4 occur in all 3 lists, 2 in 2 lists:

Miçrakeçî Menakā Rambhā Sahajanyā

Ghṛtāci Urvaçi

It is difficult to find in these names, at least as far as most of them are concerned, anything that particularly characterises an Apsaras.

b. Gandhrava's are the musicians of heaven. They play on vīṇā's (IX,5053) and sing songs to the most beautiful melodies.

Viņāsu vādyamānāsu
Gandharvāih Çakranandana
divye manorame geye
pravrtte prthulocana
Sarvāpsarahsu mukhyāsu
pranrttāsu Kurūdvaha
tvam kilânimişah Pārtha
mām ekām tatra drstavān. III,1848.

o: While the vīṇā's were struck by the Gandharva's.
o Çakra's son, and while divine and ravishing songs were sung, o thou great-eyed, and while all the principal Apsaras'es danced, o Kuru-son, you gazed on me alone.

Avā dayat tatra vīņām madhye Viçvavasuh svayam. XII, 1669.

viçvāvasu (the great Gandharva) struck the viņu himself in their midst.

> Tatra sma gāthā gāyanti sāmnā paramavalgunā Gandharvās Tumburu-çreşţhāh kuçalā gītasāmasu. III.1783.

o: Gandharva's with Tumburu at their head, skilful in song and melody, sing songs there to the most beautiful tunes.

The Gandharva's are said to reside near the lake Mānasa (II,1012) and on Mount Niṣadha.

To the Gandharva's belong also the Kinnara's and other Nara's (II,896).

c. Cāraņa's are wandering Minstrels (Bards, Troubadours). They admire and sing the praise of heroes.

Mangalāih stutibhiç câpi vijayapratisamhitaih Cāraņāih stūyamānāu tāu jagmatah parayā mudā L7666.

o: Under auspicious hymns of praise that proclaimed victory, extolled by the Carana's, the two set forth with great joy.

The Cāraņa's are especially named in connection with the Siddha's (III,1756. VII.2817, 5692, 7188).

# C. The Acvin's.

The two divine Açvin's, tridaçãçvinãu, (III,10845) Nāsatya and Dasra by name (XIII,7005, 7583) who are distinguished by their personal beauty ( ) are the heavenly physicians who understand to restore youth and beauty to men.

Āvām devabhişagvarāu yuvānam rūpasampannam karişyāvah patm tava 111,10366.

o: We are the two excellent divine physicians, we will make your husband young and beantiful.

In XII,10215 they are called bhisajāu varāu, the two excellent physicians.

According to I,2500 they are the offspring of Tvāṣṭrī and Savitar and belong to the Guhyaka's, but in XIII,11126 they are said to have arisen from the tears of Agni, and in XII,7568. XIII,7006 they are named as being the sons of Mārtanda and said to have come from (his wife's) Sanjāā's nose.

Indra would not acknowledge their divinity and

their right to the Soma-offer, as by birth they were Cüdra's (XII,7500), but he was compelled to do so by Cyavana who had received perpetual youth from them (III,10871. XIII,7807. III,10849). See below.

The Deeds of the Agvin's.

In III,10845 we read the following tale about the Acvin's:

Kasvacit tv-atha kālasva tridaçãy Açvināu nṛpa krtābhişekām vivrtām Sukanyām tām apaçyatām. Tām dṛṣṭvā darçaniyāngim devarājasutām iva ücatulı samablıidrutya Nāsatyav Acvināv idani: Kasya tvam asi vāmoru vane 'smin kim karoşi ca icchāva bhadre jñātum tvām tattvam ākhyābi çobhane. Tatah Sukanyā savrīdā tāv uvāca surottamāu: Carvătitanayam vittam bhāryām mām Cyavanasya ca. Athâçvināu prahasyâitām abrūtām punar eva tu: katham tvam asi kalvani pitrā dattā gatādhvane Bhrājase 'smin vane bhīru vidyut säudāminī yathā na deveşv-api tulyam hi tvayapacyava bhavini,

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Anābharanasampannā paramāmbaravarjitā cobhayasy-adhikam bhadre vanam apy-analankṛtā Sarvābharanasampannā paramāmbaradhāriņī cobhase tv-anavadyāngi na tv-evam malapankini, Kasmād evamvidhā bhūtvā. jarājarjaritam patim tvam upāsse ha kalyāni kāmabhogavahiskṛtain Asamartham paritrane posane ca cucismite, sā tvam Cyavanam utsrjya varayasvâikam āvayoh Patyartham devagarbhabhe mā vṛthā yāuvanam kṛthāh, evam uktā Sukanyani surāu tāv idam abravīt: Ratâham Cyavane patyāu māivam mām paryaçankithāh; tāv abrūtām panas tv-enām: āvām devabhişagvarāu Yuvānam rūpasampannam karişyavah patim tava, tatas tasyâvāyoç câiva vrnosvânyatamam patim. Etena samayenâinam āmantraya patim cubhe; sā tayor vacanād rājann upasangamya Bhargavam

Uvāca vākyam yat tābhyām uktam Bhrgu-sutam prati, tac chrutvā Cyavano bhāryām uvāca: kriyatām iti Bhartrā sā samanujāātā kriyatām ity-athâbravīt; crutvā tadācvināu vākyam tat tasyāh kriyatām iti Ucatu rājaputrīm tām: patis tava vicaty-apah; tato 'mbhac Cyaranah cighram rūpārthī praviveça ha. Açvināv api tad rājan sarah prāvicatām tadā, tato muhūrtād uttīrņāh sarve te saratas tadā Divyarūpadbarāh sarve yuvano mrstakundalah tulyaveçadharāç câiva manasah pritivardhanah Te 'bruvan sahitāh sarve: vrnīsvanyatamam cubhe asmākam īpsitam bhadre patitye varavarnini Yatra vapy-abhikāmasi tam vrnisva sucobhane, sā samīxya tu tān sarvāms tulyarupadharan sthitan Niccitya manasā buddhyā devī vavre svakam patim, labdhvā tu Cyavano bhāryām vayo rūpañ ca vānichitam

Hṛṣto 'bravīn mahātejās
tāu Nāsatyāv idam vacah:
yathāham rūpasampanno
vayasā ca samanvitah
Kṛto bhavadhyām vṛddhah san
bhāryām ca prāptavān imām
tasmād yuvām kariṣyāmi
prītyāham somapītināu
Miṣato devarājasya,
satyam etad bravīmi vām;
tao chrutvā hṛṣṭamanasāu
divam tāu pratijagmatuh,
Cyavanaç ca Sukanyā ca
surāv iva vijahratuh.

o: 'Once on a time, O king, those celestials, namely, the twin Acwins happened to behold Sukanya, when she had (just) bathed, and when her person was bare. And seeing that one of excellent limbs, and like unto the daughter of the lord of celestials, the nose-born Acwins neared her, and adressed her, saving, - O thou of shapely thighs, whose daughter art thou? And what doest thou in this wood? O auspicious one, O thou of excellent grace, we desire to know this, - do thou therefore tell us. - Thereupon she replied bashfully unto those foremost of celestials, - Know me as Saryāti's daughter, and Chyavana's wife. - Thereat the Acwins again spake unto her, smiling, - What for, O fortunate one, hath thy father bestowed thee on a person who is verging on death? Surely, O timid girl, thou shinest in this wood like lightning. Not in the regions of the celestials themselves, O girl, have our

eyes lighted on thy like. O damsel, unadorned and without gay robes as thou art, thou beautifiest this wood exceedingly. Still, O thou of faultless limbs. thou canst not look so beautiful, when (as at present) thou art soiled with mud and dirt. as thou couldst, if decked with every ornament and wearing gorgeous apparel. Why, O excellent wench, in such plight servest thou a decrepit old husband, and one that has become incapable of realising pleasure and also of maintaining thee, O thou of luminous smiles? O divinely beautiful damsel, do thou, forsaking Chyavana, accept one of us for husband. It behoveth thee not to spend thy youth fruitlessly.—

"Thus addressed, Sukanyā answered the celestials, saying, - 1 am devoted to my husband, Chyavana: do ye not entertain any doubts (regarding my fidelity). - Thereupon they again spake unto her, -We two are the celestial physicians of note. will make thy lord young and graceful. Do thou then select one of us - viz, ourselves and thy husband - thy partner. Promising this, do thou, O auspicious one, bring hither thy husband. - O king, agreeably to their words, she went to Bhrigu's son. and communicated to him what the two celestials Hearing her message, Chyavana said had said. unto his wife, - Do thou so. - Having received the permission of her lord (she returned to the celestials) and said, - Do ye so. - Then hearing her words, viz, - Do ye so, - they spake unto the king's daughter, - Let thy husband enter into water. - Thereat Chyavana, desirous of obtaining beauty, quickly entered into water. The twin Acwins also, O king, sauk into the sheet of water. And the next moment they all came out of the tank in surpassingly beautiful forms, and young, and wearing burnished ear-rings. And all possessed of the same appearance, pleasing to behold, addressed her, saying — O fortunate one, do thou choose one of us for spouse. And, O beauteos one, do thou select him for lord who may please thy fancy. — Finding, however, all of them of the same likeness, she deliberated; and at last ascertaining the identity of her husband, even selected him.

"Having obtained coveted beauty and also his wife, Chyavana, of exceeding energy, well pleased, spake these words unto the nose-born celestials, — Since at your hands, an old man, I have obtained youth, and beauty, and also this wife of mine, I will, well-pleased, make you quaffers of the Soma juice in the presence of the lord of celestials himself. This I tell you truly. — Hearing this, highly delighted, the twins ascended to heaven; and Chyavana and Sukanyā began to pass their days happily, even like celestials." (ROY.)

# D. The Lokapāla's.

As Lokapāla's o: Guardians of the world, 4 are named in III,2188, cfr. 2127, 2140 follow. (Manu, V,26 has 8).

Evam ukte Näisadhena Maghavān abhyabhāsata: Amarān vāi nibodhāsmān Damayantyartham āgatān, Aham Indro 'yam Agniç ca

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tathàivayam Apām patili carīrāntakaro nīnām,
Yamo 'yam api pārthiva,
Tvam vāi samāgatān asmān
Damayantyāi nivedaya:
Lokapālā Mahendrādyāh
sabhām yānti didraxavah,
prāptum icchanti devās tvam
Çakro 'gnir Varuņo Yamah.

o: When this was said by the Nāiṣadha, Maghayat answered: know that we are immortals who have come for Damayanti's sake, I am Indra, and this is Agni. and this likewise is the lord of the waters; and this, o chief, is Yama who destroys men's bodies, lot it be known to D. that we have come: the Guardians of the world, Mahendra and the others will come to the meeting desirous of seeing (thee), the gods wish to win thee, Çakra, Agni, Varuna (and) Yama.

But in III,1670 Kuvera is inserted instead of Agni. In III,16170 Rāvaṇa, alluding to himself says that he is renowned in being known as the 5th Lokapāla, which proves that ordinarily there are only 4.

Concerning 1. Indra and 2. Varuna see above, about 3. Agni see below.

### 4. Yama.

This god's more frequently recurring names are besides Yama (XIII,8502) the following: Pitṛrāja (I,7077. XIII,4495. VIII,1674), Pitṛnām prabhu (XII,4495). Pitṛnām īçvara (III,10858), Pitṛnām samāvartin (XII,7552), Pretarāja (III,11848) and the like, further Vāivasvata (XII,4195. XIII,8500).

He is called Yama, it being he who keeps mankind in check:

> Yamo yacchati bhūtānı sarvāny-evāviçeṣatah. XII,8116. III,10781.

o: Yama controls all beings without distinction.

Gatah sa bhagavān devah prajāsamyamano Yamah. III,18813.

Pitraja he is called because he rules in the kingdom of the dead, the pitr's or the ancestors, and

Vāivasvata as the son of Vivasvat, Vivasvatasuta, Vivasvata-tanaya o: son of the shining sun (III,16788). As son of the sun one would suppose that he would vivasvata the neighbourhood of the sun, but on the contrary

his Kingdom, it is true, is in the South, but under the earth (V,8779. VIII,2102. XIII,4661. III.1680. 11818). In V,8782 the South is called Yama's second door, cfr. first door at the beginning of the former chapter. His kingdom has many names: Yama-rāṣtra (IX,760. VII,1447). -xaya (II,1427. XII,168, 11128), -sādana (I,1710, 1758, 4143. VII,5544); also Pitriloka (V.1581) and Mahāniraya (XII,18075).

In this realm is the river Vāitaraņī (V.5792) and the Rāurava-hell (XIII,4825).

His dwelling, called Samyamana, is described as being marvellously beautiful (III,11849) and his

Assembly-hall, sabhā (II,s11 follow.) which was built by Viçvakarman shines like bright gold. Here is neither sorrow nor decrepitude, neither is there hunger or thirst, but all you can wish for is to be found there, and many sages and kings assemble there to pay homage

to Yama. And there is singing, dancing and merriment from Gandharva's and Apsaras'es. Such is the high Pitr-king's assemblage.

Īdrçī sā sabhā rājan Pitṛrājāo mahātmanah II,258.

His person is described as being dark, cyāma, (III,16812), with red eyes, lohitāxa, (XII 111). with a dreadfully shaped body, ghorarūpa, (III,14550), with majestic manners, puruşa mahāujas (III.16818). In III.16750 his appearance is thus depicted.

Muhürtüd eva capaçyat puruşam raktavüsasanı baddhamüulim vapuşmantam üdityasamatejasanı Çyümavadütam raktüxam paçahastanı bhayüvaham sthitam Satyavatah pürçve nirxantam tam eva ca.

o: Suddenly she saw a man in red clothes with lus hair tied up on the top of his head, of great size, shining like the sun and of bright blue colour, with red eyes, holding a noose in his hand, striking her with terror, standing by the side of Satyavat and gazing at him.

His wife is named Dhūmorņá (XIII,7687). Daxa prajāpati gave 10 of his daughters to Yama (I,2677). But in XII.2262 Ģrī is named as being his consort. thus also in I,2578.

His messengers, purusa. are described as wearing black apparel, having red eyes. bristling hair, and legs, eyes and noses like a crow (XIII,3380).

His charioteer, sārathi. is called in XII,12085 Roga, sickness.

His weapons are a staff, danda (I,7077), Yamadanda (IX,8202, 151. VII,69115. V.7271. XII,428), and a noose, pāça, (VII,1617. III,16755).

Yama has two four-eyed dogs, offspriing of Saramā who in III,14187 is called mātā çunām devī and in I,872 devaçunī; cfr. Monier-Williams in Ind. Antiq. 1877. p. 313.

Most of the names of this god indicate two sides of his character:

a. He is the God of death who destroys life in man, therefore he is called Lokantakrt (III,1072), Kā-lāntaka-Yama (III,879), Yamāntaka (II,690), Antaka (I,1617. V,2236), wherefore he is also accompanied by Mṛtyu, death, and is surrounded by hundreds of dreadful diseases (III14550) and his messengers, Yamadūta (III,8110. 16760) who execute his commands, lead the fatigued through a barren district, where there is neither shade nor water, on to Yama (III,18597).

To die is called to go to Yama's mansion (III,451), to kill to send to Yama's mansion (III,1560).

b. Secondly he is as Pretarāja, the king of the dead, (I,2063. III,11849), the just judge, Dharmarāja (I,276. III,18074, 16788), Dharmendra (VII,160), before whose throne all must meet (XII,12078), but they must go there singly without friends or relatives, their deeds only accompany them (XII,12008). And he is not only wise in dharma, but he is himself Dharma (III,7079), and the whole world has its root in dharma

sarvo hi loko nrpa dharmamulah XII,4407.

And as the avenger he is himself Danda (XII,484).

As ruler of Pitrloka, the world of ancestors, he is, as a king, gracious towards the just, and punishes the unjust (XII.2778, 7652. V.7793. XIII,4856), and danda is the symbol of his righteous judgements and chastising power, and on these heaven and earth rest. (XII,425 follow).

Daṇḍah çāsti prajāh sarvā
daṇḍa evābhiraxati
daṇḍah supteṣu jāgarti
daṇḍam dharmam vidur budhāh XII.425 — Manu VI,18.

2: The staff rules over all creatures, the staff protects

 The staff rules over all creatures, the staff protects (them all), the staff watches the sleeping, the staff acknowledge the wise to be dharma.

Daṇḍe sthitāh prajāh sarvā, daṇḍe sarvain vidur budhāh, daṇḍe svargo manuṣyānām loko 'yan 'ca pratiṣṭhitah XII,466.

o: To the staff all beings are subject, all things depend on the staff say the wise, by the staff stand Svarga and this world of mankind fast.

In XIII,3505 follw. the delightful regions and dwellings are described to which the righteous come after death.

'As a specimen of the punishments of Hell we mention the following:

Yo lubdhah sabhrçam priyanrtaç ca manuşyah satatanikrtivacanābhiratih syāt
Upanidhibhir asukhakrt sa paramanirayago
bhrçam asukham anubhavati duşkrtakarmā,
Uşṇām Vāitaraṇīm nadīm
avagūḍho 'sipatravanabhinnagātrah

Paraçuvanaçayo nipatito vasati ca Mahāniraye bhṛçārttah. XII,12071.

o: That man who is led by desire, who is dishonest. is fond of base language, who causes distress having property in charge (?), he goes to the greatest hell and suffers great distress as one who has practised misdeeds; sunk in the hot stream, Vāitaraṇīm, his limbs wounded in the sword-leaved forest, lying there fallen in the forest of axes, he lives frightfully tortured in the great hell.

In III,8552 is related, how Agastya sees his forefathers in hell, hanging in a cave head downwards, and how they might be saved (for the Deva-world) if he marries and has a son who can continue the descent of the family.

According to XII,625 there are two roads: one leading to the Pitr's, and one leading to the Deva's. In XII,1009, 1131, 5417 the Pitr's and the Deva's are likewise opposed to one another, but in II,400 follow. it is said that Pitr's, of whom there are 7 classes, serve Brahmā in heaven.

### Yama's Deeds.

One of the most charming episodes in the Mahābhārata is the tale of the faithful woman Sāvitrī to whom Yama from pity gave back her husband, restoring him to life again.

King Açvapati's daughter Savitrī who was as beautiful as Çrī chose Satyavat for her husband. He was the son of king Dyumatsena who was blind and lived in the forest having been despoiled of his kingdom by his enemy. The divine sage Nārada told her

father that Satyavat amidst all his virtues had one fault, and that was that at the end of a year he would die. When king Açvapati heard this he said to Sāvitrī: go and choose another, but Sāvitrī did not waver, and Nārada approved of her choice. She married Satyavat and clothed herself in bark and red garments, and by her helpfulness and solicitude and unselfishness she won Life in the hermitage ran smoothly and all hearts. peacefully, but Savitra pondered night and day unceasingly on Narada's words, and penances emaciated her. Then when one day Satyavat, at the time the sands of his life had nearly run out, took his axe and went into the forest to fetch wood, Savitri followed her husband with smiles on her lips at the sight of the flowering wood and the clear rivers, but pained in her heart with sorrow. And Satyavat said to her: look at these divine rivers and these gorgeous flowering trees! But Sävitri's thoughts dwelt only on Narada's prophecy. . And Satyavat plucked fruit and began to cut the branches off the trees, but as the exertion made him perspire, and his head began to ache, he approached his wife, saying: I should like to rest and sleep a little. So Sāvitrī sat down on the ground and laid his head on her lap. The next moment she saw a man coming who was dressed in red clothing, he had a diadem on his head and a noose in his hand. He came close to Satyavat and stood looking at him. Then Savitrī laid her husband's head gently on the ground, and as she rose said tremblingly and in a sorrowful tone: thou art a god, tell me, what is thy will. Yama answered: yes I am Yama; your husband's days are ended, and I have come to lead him away, that is my errand. Savitri

replied: I have heard that thy messengers come to fetch mortals, how is it that thou thyself hast come? And Yama answered: this prince is very virtuous, therefore I have come myself. And Yama drew forth the dead man's soul and began to lead it towards the south. But Sāvitrī followed hm. Yama said: go back Sāvitrī, and mourn for thy husband, thou art now freed from thy duties towards thy lord, and thou canst not accompany us. But Savitri replied: where my husband goes there will I follow him, that is the eternal law. Yama answered: thine argument pleases me, choose a gift from me, and with the exception of thy husband's life, whatsoever it be, it shall be granted. And Savitri asked first that her father-in-law might have his sight and his kingdom restored to him, and Yama answered: so be it! She asked next that her father might have a hundred sons to propagate his race, and Yama consented also to this desire, but reminded her at the same time that she must really go back now as she had already come too far. But Savitri said: the last wish you granted me cannot be fulfilled without my husband, therefore I pray thee give me his life, without him I am as one dead. and do not even desire heaven, thou hast thyself promised me a hundred sons, and yet thou wilt take my husband from me, let Satyavat live that thy promise may be fulfilled. Then at last Yama gave way, and Sāvitrī got back her husband.

# E. The Marut's, the Gods of the winds.

The etymology of the word Marut is uncertain. Marut comes perhaps from mar == to shine, see Grassm. Wörterbuch. The Marut's are often named in the Ma-

hābhārata. generally combined with other deities as in III,1768. VI,1258, 1260. Hariv.441, 1050, 12112 etc., but particularly together with Indra who in consequence is also called Marutvat.

Marudbhih saha jetvarīn
Bhagavān Pākaçāsanah
ekāikam kratum āhrtya
çatakrtvah Çatakratuh
dhūtapāpmā jitasvargo
lokān prāpya sukhodayān
Marudgaņair vṛtah Çakrah
çuçubhe bhāsayan diçah. XII,1104.

o: Having conquered the enemy together with the Marut's and after having made a hundred sacrifices one after another, Çatakratu having shaken off his sin and conquered Svarga and obtained worlds of gladness, surrounded by orowds of Marut's Çakra shone while lighting up all the quarters of the heavens.

See furthermore XIII,918. XIV,1476. III,11528, 14782.

The accounts in V, sees and in IX, 2218 about the origin of the Marut's are equally absurd and equally disgusting, according to the first they would also be Dāitya's.

In XIII,5815 seven Marut's are spoken of (cfr. IX,2222), and in V,1225 Marīci is mentioned as the most distinguished of them. According to this the Marut's would be identical with the Prajāpati's.

Their function is to protect Indra in his battles with his enemies (VIII,4208).

F. The Pitr's. See above under Yama.

- G. The Prajāpati's. See above under Brahmā.
- H. The Rbhu's.

The Rbhu's constitute the highest class of the gods. They neither need sacrifices nor ampta. They are entirely without desire. They are superior both to happiness and to misery. They are eternal gods who survive every kalpa (æon), therefore even the Deva's desire that state. In III, 15157 we read:

Tesam tathāvidhānān tu lokānām munipungava upary-upari lokasya lokā divyā guņānvitāh. Purastād brāhmanās tatra lokās tejomayāh cubhāh yatra yünty. Rsayo brahman pūtāh svāih karmabhih cubhaih, Rbhavo nāma tatrānye devānām api devatāh tesām lokāh paratare van yajantiha devatah Svayanıprablıās te bhāsvanto lokāh kāmadughāh pare, na tesām strīkrtas tāpo na lokāiçvaryamatsarah, Na vartayanty-āhutībhis te napy-amrtabhojanah tathā divyaçarīrās te na ca vigrahamurtayah. Na sukhe sukhakāmās te devadeváh sanátanáh na kalpapariyarteşu

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parivartanti te tathā,
Jarā mṛtyuh kutas teṣām
harṣah prītih sukham na ca
na duhkham na sukham cāpi
rāgadveṣāu kuto mune,
Devānām api Modgalya
kānkhitā sā gatih parā,
duṣprāpā paramā siddhir
agamyū kāmagocarāih.

o: But above each separate world of these thus conditioned worlds are the divine spheres with the highest virtues; above all are there the brahmanic worlds, the glorious, the beautiful, where Rsi's go when purified by their works. There are other godheads among the gods there, Ribhu's by name their worlds are still higher, and even the gods here worship them, self-luminous are these shinning worlds that yield all that one wishes for, the eminent (beings here) have no lust called forth by women, neither do they thirst for worldly power; they do not live by sacrifices and do not partake of Amrta, they have divine bodies and not material forms; they do not seek pleasure in happiness these eternal gods of gods, neither are they whirled about in the rolling world's revolutions (kalpa), they do not know old age and death, nor amusement, joy and gladness, not pain nor happiness, nor love and hate; sought by the gods themselves is that high elevated station which is difficult to reach, the highest perfection which cannot be aquired by those who are governed by their passions.

### I. The Rsi's.

Different Rṣi's are often mentioned in the MBh., sometimes in a general way as Rṣi's, ṛṣi, and Great-Rṣi's. maharṣi, and sometimes especially as Deva-Rṣi's, devarṣi (XVII.108), Brahman-Rṣi's, brahmarṣi (III.11088). and King-Rṣi's, rajarṣi (XII.691). Of the first mentioned there are said to be 7 with Vaçiṣṭha at their head (III.11856).

Sapta devan qayas tāta Vaçiştha-pramukhās tadā, cfr. XII,12722 follow.

These must therefore be identical with the 7 Prajūpati's, cfr. supra.

Amongst the great number of Rsi's Bhrgu (XII.96) Vrhaspati, the teacher of the gods (I.8841) and Nārada (I.9191) are most frequently named.

About the different practices of the different sorts of Rsi's see XIII.6485 follow.

### J. The Rudra's.

The Rudra's or the Storm-gods are said in XII 7540 to be sons of Dharma (Yama), and in XII, 1498 to have Içāna (Çiva) as their protector, goptar. They are 11 (III, 10667) in number, named in I. 2565 thus:

Mrgavyādhaç ca Sarpaç ca
Nirītiç ca mahāyaçāh
Ajāikapād-Ahirbudhnyah
Pinākī ca parantapah
Dahano 'theçvaraç câiva
Kapālī ca mahādyutih
Sthānur Bhagaç ca bhagavān
Rudrā ekādaça smṛtāh. Cfr. I,4826.

Another list different from this is to be found in XIII,7090, cfr. Wilson, V. P. p. 121. But in XIII,984 it is said that 1100 Rudra's praised Mahegyara.

# Rudra-Çiva.

In the Civa-myth there is a remarkable duality, and it is not easy to explain wherein it has its origin.

In all likelihood the myth is a nature-myth which has arisen from the contemplation of the workings of nature with her manifold changes of character; and I am inclined to think that it must be understood as being originally an expression for, and a description of living nature in a mountainous district, with its often great contrasts between the inclement winter season, with its icy atmosphere and sparkling snow, and the balmy summer time deligtful with its rich vegetation, and its coolness in opposition to the burning heat in the valleys below.

But this does not exclude the possibility of the myth having gradually altered in character, and the reason of its alteration from roughness to smoothness may lie in the change of disposition in the Hindu's themselves, after having removed from the north-west provinces, with their severe climate, to the valley of the Ganges, and from being a people divided in clans had become a community with social-ethical institutions, and with ascetism as the principal feature of their religious life.

That however Rudra is the oldest part of the myth is clearly shewn from the name of Rudra so frequently occurring in Rigveda, while Çiva is only used as an adjective in the sense of bringing good fortune, being gracious.

Civa is most often in the Mahābhārata called Mahā-

deva the great god ( $\Pi$ ,1612. III,11985.  $V\Pi$ ,9628) or Devadeva, god of gods (III,11992), but he has, however, many other names concerning which see below.

He is a son of Brahmā, sprung from his forehead, lalāṭaprabhava (XII,18705, 18728); but according to III, he sprang from Viṣṇu's forehead.

He dwells on the holy Himavat.

Here on the ridge of Himavat the mighty master always sits, shining like the fire at the end of a Yuga (V,3825). On the north side of Mount Meru is a lovely Karnikāra-wood, full of flowers from all seasons of the year; there, surrounded by divine beings, Paçupati, Umā's husband, rejoices (VI,218. XIII,6838). In XII,10212 we find him on a horn of the mountain Meru called Savitra, and in VII,3465 on Mount Mandara.

He has fiery red hair (harikeça, vilohita) which flames like the sun (III,19230. VII,0522. X,256).

He has four faces, caturmukha, which he acquired in the following manner: Brahmā once created a beautiful woman named Tillottamā by extracting from each pearl (or costly thing) a small portion. Then this woman came, incomparable in shape and with a radiant countenance, and walked round Mahādeva and tempted him, and on whichever side she approached him there appeared a handsome face on his person. The three faces that turn towards east, north and west, are mild like the moon, but that which turns to the south is harsh. With that which turns to the east he rules, with that which turns to the north he is joyful to gether with Umā, the countenance he turns to the west is mild and brings gladness to all living creatures, but

that which turns to the south is terrible and destroys all beings (XIII,6890 follow. 6881).

He has three eyes and is therefore called trinetra, tryambaka (III,11984. XII,10957. VII,1579, 2875, 9624. Kālidāsa's Meghadūta, V,58), tryaxa (III,1519. VII,9629. VIII,4869. XII,10199), trinayana (Kālidāsa's Meghadūta V.52). They shine like three suns (XIII.846). In X,1251? it is said that Sun, Moon and Agni are his three eyes.

How Civa came to have a third eye is related in XIII,6362: To Hara came one day under a shower of flowers the beautiful daughter of the mountain (Umā) and standing behind him, smilingly and in jest put her hands suddenly over his eyes. Straightway everything was veiled in darkness and all life seemed to be extinguished. People trembled from fright; and as the lord of all beings had shut his eyes, the world was apparently without a sun. But the darkness soon disappoared, for a third eye flamed forth like a sun on his forehead. There is another version in XII,18865.

He has a blue neck and is therefore called Nīla-kaṇṭha (II,1641. XIII,848. 1154), likewise Çitikaṇṭha (X,258. Kūlidāsa's Kumāra-S. II,61) and Çrīkaṇṭha (XII,13706).

There are different reasons given for his having a blue neck. Sometimes it is said that it was because he swallowed the strong poison, Halāhala, which came forth when the gods and the Asuras churned the ocean (see above), sometimes it is accounted for by Indra having thrown his thunderbolt after him (Civa) (XIII,6897), a third version is that he was bitten by the snakes that darted out from Uçana's hair (XII,18905 follow., conf. 10680).

He has ten arms (XIII,1151).

He is clothed in skins (II,1619. X,256), especially in tiger skins (XIII,981). He is called the white one (VII,2858), for according to XIII,814 he wears a shining white garment, and his wreaths, shoulder cord, bull and banner are all of them white (XII,10361). And he bears the moon on his head as a diadem (X,261. XIII,846).

His conveyance, vahana. driven by Kala (III.14543). is a white bull, vrsa, vrsabha (II,116), which Brahmā gave him both as chariot and banner (XIII,6101). It has a huge body and beautiful honey-brown eyes. Its neck is very thick. Its horns are as hard as adamant, with their sharp red points it tears up the earth (Kalidāsa's Meghad, V,53). It has broad shoulders, sleek sides and a black tail, and it is decorated with a golden girth. Its hump resembles the top of a snow mountain. On this bull Devadeva sits with Uma (XIII,801). Another account says it was the sage of the gods, Daxa, who gave the bull to Civa XIII,3722). He is therefore called Vrsanka. i.e. he whose emblem is a bull (III,10967. XIII,899, 6869. Kālid., Kumāra-S. III,14) and Vṛṣabhadhvaja, he who has a bull on his standard (III,1634).

His favourite weapon is the dreadful spear Pāçupata, the eternal weapon, with which Maheçvara killed all the Dāityas in battle. At the end of a Yuga it destroys (samharate) the whole world. Mahādeva gave it to Arjuna, after he had fought with him (III.11985. VII.2838. XIII.2851). It is also called Brahmaçiras (I.5308. III.1844).

His battle-axe, paraçu, has a sharp edge. He gave it to Rāma, who destroyed the Xatris with it (XIII.861).

His bow. coloured like the rainbow, called Pināka. is a mighty serpent with seven heads. a big body, sharp and very poisonous teeth. It is always in his hand, so that he can assist the gods (XIII,810, 6296). He is called Pinākin after his bow (XIII.667, 7090).

The trident, triçūla, commonly called the fork, Çūla, with which formerly King Mandhūtar and all his army were annihilated (XIII,860). is also called Vijaya (III,14551), has three sharp points. Mahādeva is named Çūlin after the fork (III,1512. Kalid., Meghad. V,31), Çūladhara (III,1513) and Çūlapūņin or Çūlapūņi (V,1993. III,6055).

His wife is Umā (Kalid., Kumara-S. I,26), the younger daugther of the mountain-king Himavat (XII.12168, Ramay. I,87, 8). After Himavat had promised her to Mahādeva, the sage of the gods Bhrigu came and said "Give me this girl", but Himavat answered: "Chosen is the excellent Rudra". Then Bhrigu said, "Since I, who have chosen the girl, am rejected, thou shalt no longer be a bowl full of pearls". And even up to the present day the sage's word holds good (XII,18220). Umā also bears the names Parvatī, daughter of the mountain (XII,18220 foll. Kālid., Kumāra-S. I,26), Durgā the unapproachable (see below), and Gāurī, the radiant white one (X,258). After Umā Mahādeva is often called Umāpati, Umā's lord (XIII,1154. III,8886).

Mahādeva has a good friend Kuvera (II,417), and like Kuvera he is also called Lord of gold. hiraņyapati (XII,10862), as they both rule over the rich-in-gold Himavat. The following quotation is in harmony with this

Namo hiranyagarbhāya hiranyakavacāya ca hiranyakrtacüdnya hiranyapataye namah.

o: Honour to him who has gold inwardly, who has a golden mail, a golden comb, honour to the Lord of gold.

Mahadeva has many names and many shapes. But his names and qualities are most frequently mixed together, as if the principal thing was to enumerate as many as possible to increase his importance and divinity and make him the foremost of all, see for instance XIII.7486, 880, 1144, XII,10346; he is even, to be sure, sometimes made out to be Brahma himself (XIII,1043, 590, 784 follow.) In XII,10315. XIII,1118, 1296, it is said that he has 1008 names. in XIII,007, that he has a 1000 names and in different places he is said to be bahurupa, having many shapes, thus for instance VII,9619. X,268. XII,12178. XIII,725 follow. All these names and shapes, some of which we have already mentioned and of which we in the following will speak of the most important, can however suitably be classified, as indeed the Hindu's themselves do, under two definitions or forms, which may be seen from XIII.7504-7510 (conf. VII.9599), to this effect:

Dve tanū tasya devasya vedajāā brāhmaņā viduh, ghorām anyām çivām anyām, te tanū bahudhā punah. Ugrā ghorā tanur yā sā so 'gnir vidyut sa bhāskarah çivā sāumyā ca yā tv-asya dharmas tv-āpo 'tha candramāh.

Atmano 'rdhan tu tasyagnih somo 'rdham punar ucvate. brahmacaryam caraty-ekā çıvā yâsya tanus tathā Yasya ghoratamā mūrtir jagat samharate tadā, īcvaratvān mahatvāc ca Mahecvara iti smrtah. Yan niidahati yat tixno yad ugro yat pratapavan māmsaconitamajjādo yat tato Rudra ucyate. Devānām sumahān yac ca yac câsya visayo mahān yao ca viçvam mahat pati Mahadevas tatah surtah. Dhūmrarūpañ ca yat tasya Dhūratîty-ata ucyate, sa medhayatı yan nityam sarvān vāi sarvakarmablih. Manusyān chiyam anvicchams tasmād eva Çıvah smṛtab.

o: This god has two shapes,
So teach the Brāhmana's versed in the Veda's,
a terrible and a mild
and these shapes are again diversified.
That shape which is stern and frightful
that is fire lightning, and the sun,
but that which is mild and soft
that is dharma, water, and the moon.
Furthermore the one half of him is said to be
fire and the other half is the moon.

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likewise it is said that the one form, that which is mild practises chastity. Still further his most frightful apparition is the one which draws in the world; and on account of his sovereign might and power he is called Mahecvara (the great Lord). Because he burns up (the world) because he is sharp, because he is severe, because he is flaming, because he eats flesh, blood and marrow therefore he is called Rudra. And because he is very great amongst gods and because his domain is great and because he is omnipotent, therefore he is called Mahadeva (the great god). And because he has a dark shape. he is also called Dhurjati, and because he always, m all his works shows kindness to all mankind, wishing them happiness just therefore he is called Civa.

To this duality must doubtless be added Qiva's being described as being half man and half woman.

a. As the severe, ugra (II.1642. X,252), the terrible, ghora (XII,10375), the appalling, vibhīṣaṇa (XII,10376) he appears mostly as Rudra, which clearly is his oldest name. Rudra probably means originally the howling one, from rud, to howl, shriek lat.: rudere. His laughter is frightful and hollow as the sound of the kettledrum bhīmadundubhihāsa (XII,10369).

As the devastating power which sweeps away and destroys all things, he is named Hara and is identified

with sickness and death as well as with that all sweeping power which at last destroys all the universe. In XIII.1146 he is said to be sarvabhūtahara. he who sweeps away all beings, in X.219. XIII.6895, he is called Bhaganetrahara, in X.253 Daxakratuhara. His deputy is fever (XII.10259). He is disease (VII.2877), he is death (XIII.7497). He destroys all both good and bad (XII.2791). He is unborn (X.253). This world is made by him (III.1626). By lum are all things created, say the sages, and he absorbs all things created at the Yuga-demolition (IX.2220). He draws in the whole world, samharati, at the end of a Yuga, and swallows up all things (XIII.911—48). Everything owes it origin to Muhādeva, VII.9105, but

Adhhyas stokā yānti yathā pṛthaktvam tābhiç câikyam sanxaye yanti bhūyah evam vidvan prabhavan câpyayan ca matvā bhūtānām tava sayujam eti VII,9107.

o: Even as from water expanses single drops ariso, and these again, at the destruction of the world mix with the waters. from whence they came, thus the wise man who reflects on the appearance and disappearance of all things becomes one with thee.

As belonging to the same feature of the nature of this god we must reckon all those names which define him as the Mighty Ruler, such as

Īçāna, the Ruler, (VII.2876, VIII,486, X,262, XII,4498). Īçvara, the Lord. (X,252).

Maheçvara, the great Lord, (V,8825. XII,10999).

Viçveçvara, Lord of all, (III.7042).

Sthanu, the Immovable, (VII,9625. X,259. XIII,843).

Vṛṣa, the Bull, (II,1642). and I suppose also:

Giriça, the Mountain-dweller, (VII, 1554. X,250). Kālid. has Girīça. Lord of the Montains, see Bopp & B. R.

Paçupati, Lord over Beasts (wild ones? conf. I,1105. II,1645. III,16855. VI,219), paçūnām pati (VII,2874, 8815, 9615. Kālid., Kumāra S. I,53).

As Destroyer Çiva is identified with Kāla, time (conf. supra p. 62) and is therefore described as the latter. Sa Kālas, he is Kāla (XIII,7497. 1161, 1188, 942) and of Kāla it is said: Kāla is he in whose power we all are.

Sarvasya hi prabhuh Kālo dharmatah samadarçanah. yāuvanasthāmiç ca bālāmiç ca vṛddhān garbhagatān api sarvān úvisate mṛṭyur, evambhūtam idam jagat. (XII.5718, 1178).

o: Kāla is everybody's master and looks justly with the same eyes (on all) upon youths and infants on the aged and even on those who lie in the womb, Death comes to all, such is this world.

All are created and are swept away again and again by Kāla (XIII,56). Thou art the beginning of the worlds, and thou art Kāla who absorbest them (XIII,618). I am Kāla the Mighty Destroyer of the world (VI,1278). Every action is accomplished at the instigation of Kāla (XIII,87). The whole world is animated by Kāla, kālātmaka (XIII,58).

In connection with this may be mentioned the description of Qiva as the Hideous-one. He has ears like spears, çankukarna, he is large-eared, mahā-

karņa, he has ears like basins, kumbhakarņa (XII.10350). He has frightful ears and eyes, ugraçravaṇadarçana (III,10350), a misshapen mouth, vikṛtavaktra (XII,10371), a tongue like a sword, khadgajihva, large teeth. damṣṭrin, very sharp teeth (XIII,1168).

b. As the mild. the friendly, the merciful Mahādeva appears especially under the names of Qiva and Çankara. Thus it is said of him in VII,8622:

Samedhayati yan nityam sarvārthān sarvakarmasu çivam icchau manusyānām tasmād eva Çivah smrtah.

o: Because he always promotes all sorts of good fortune in all undertakings, since he wishes mankind happiness, just therefore he is called Qiva.

In VIII 4861 he is called: sarvabhūtaçivah Qivah, the towards all beings friendly Qiva, in XIII,889: sāumyavaktradhara, he who has a mild countenance, in XII,8798: sarvabhūtabīte ratah, he who rejoices over the happiness of all beings. In XII,8675 the following occurence is related:

A Brahman had at last been blessed with a son, but the child died shortly afterwards from convulsions, and the relations brought it to the churchyard. A vulture which had been called thither by their loud lamentations, said to them "Go home, it is of no use staying here, all must die". And the relations began to go away, at that moument a black jackal came out of his den and said:

"This child can perhaps come to life again, have you no love for it". Then the men came back. But

the vulture said: "Why do you turn back, what is the use of your lamenting". Then the jackal and the vulture began to dispute together, and the relations did not know what to do. Then the great god Çañkara, at the instigation of his wife Umā, came, with eyes full of pitying tears and said to the men: "I am the bountiful, varada, Çañkara". And the men said: "Give our child life". And the god bestowed life for a hundred years on the child, and he also gave the vulture and the jackal something with which to satisfy their hunger.

Together with this may be mentioned those places where Mahādeva is described as being gay and fond of music, singing and dancing. In XII,10565 he is called samhista, the joyful, 10567 gitavaditracālin, acquainted with song and music, nartanaçīla, devoted to dancing and to imitating drum music with the mouth, mukhavāditravādin. And his followers are just as merry (XIII,1396).

I think it most proper to place Çiva as Brahma-cārin and practiser of penances under this the gentle side of his nature. In XIII,5395 he is said to be jațilo brahmacări ca lokānām hitākāmyayā, one who goes with uncombed hair and practises chasity because he wishes mankind's welfare, in VII 2879 that he is munda, shaved, in VII,8464 he is called tapasam yoni, the womb of penance, in XII,12831 Mahādeva is said to have undertaken heavy penances on Himavat, according to VII,2858 he is valkalājinavāsas clothed in bark and skins, in XII,12836 it is said that he stood on one foot for a 1000 years, in X,263 he is called çmaçānavāsin, he who lives at

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fond of a shos from the funeral pile, and kapalahasta, he who holds a skull in his hand, XIII,6405 reads thus:

> Medhānveşī mahim kṛtsnam vicarāmy-aniçam sadā na ca medhyataram kincit çmaçānād iha laxyate.

Seeking a fit offering place I wander ceaselessly over the whole earth, and there can be no better spot for that than the churchyard.

Durgā, Çiva's wife, has the same double character as her husband, and many of her qualities seem to be the same as his, so that she consequently appears as the feminine side of his nature.

According to VI,803 she is kantāravāsinī, one who lives in trackless places, in VI,800. IV,193 she is said to be fond of strife and of the Asura Mahişa's blood, and according to VI,806. IV.180 she conquers Dānava's and Asura's in battle. She is called Kālī and Mahākālī, Kālī, the great Kālī, in VI,797, and in IV,195 and in VI,803 she is said to be the great (everlasting) sleep of all beings, mahānidrā dehinām.

On the other side she is Durgā, because she rescues from care and want:

Durgāt tārayase Durge tat tvam Durgā smṛtā janaih, kāntāresv-avasannānām magnānān ca mahānave dasyubhir vā niruddhānām tvam gatih paramā nṛṇām. (IV.198.) o: From want dost thou save, o Durgā, therefore art thou called Durga by man; for those who are lost in trackless places. for those who are wrecked in the great ocean, for those who are distressed by bad beings for such people art thou the best refuge;

and in Mrochakațikā ed. Stenzler p. 170 we read:

Holy Durga! be merciful, be merciful!

Let Carudatta be saved and thereby shew thy goodness towards the race of Candāla. See Edv. Brandes' translation of the Clay Cart p. 174.

Furthermore she is said to live on Vindhya (IV,196), on Mandara (VI,796). She is a daughter of Yaçodā (IV,178), she is descended from the cow-hord Nanda's lineage (VI,786. IV,179), and is a sister to Väsudeva (IV,180). She has four faces and four arms (IV,185), wears a diadem, shining in all colours, and her emblem is a peacock's tail (IV,180).

# Civa's Heroic Deeds.

Among Çiva's renowned deeds we mention the following:

1) First that concerning Gangā Bhāgīrathī (VI,223. XIII,1784 foll.). Gangā is India's most sacred river, and those districts through which it flows are the holiest in the world. To live near it and bathe in its waters is sufficient alone to purify from all sin and conduct to heaven, hundreds of offerings are not equal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The holiness of the Ganga-river is acknowledged up to this day: when in 1881 the queen of the king of Siam was burnt on the funeral pile two silver pails with water from the Ganga were put on the pile.

in value to bathing in the Ganga. Even as snakes lose their poison at the mere sight of their enemy, the Garuda bird, so are you fieed from all sin at the bare sight of the sacred stream. By bathing in Ganga you not only deliver yourself from sin but also help your forefathers (the Pithi's). They who were just on the point of sinking into hell on account of their heavy sins, may be saved by the waters of Ganga. When one sees the river swarming with swans and other aquatic birds, its banks beautified by delightful pastures adorned by herds of cattle, then even Heaven loses its attraction, and by living on its banks one enjoys greater happiness than in Heaven.

Meroh samudrasya oa sarvaratnaih sankhyôpalanam udakasya vâpi çakyam vaktum nôha Gangajalanam guṇākhyānam paimatum tathâiva (XIII.1888).

o One may perhaps be able to count the stones of Mount Meru, and perhaps measure the water in the ocean with all its pearls, but to measure all the virtues of Gangā's water is impossible.

Ganga was Himavat's eldest daughter. Her younger sister was named Umā. Concerning Gangā the following event is related (Rāmāyaṇa I,40-48, Bombay ed. 1888. Mahābh III.8881).

King Sāgara in Ayodhyā had 60,000 sons. While they were searching once for a hoise that had been stolen from a sacrifice of horses, they met the sage Kapila. They accused him of having stolen the missing horse, and in consequence he, in his anger, transformed them to ashes. Only by the aid of Ganga's holy waters

could they again come to life. It was Sāgara's great-great-grandson, Bhagīratha who at last succeeded in bringing the stream Ākāça-Gaāgā, Vyoma-Gaāgā, (Air-Ganges, Heaven-Ganges), down from heaven. and its violence was only restrained by Çiva receiving it in the curls of his hair. This tale is often referred to in Mahābhārata, thus it is said in VI.225:

Tām dhārayām āsa tadā durdharām parvatair api çatam varşasahasrāṇām çirasāiva Pinākadhṛk

o: Her, who is difficult to bear even by mountains, bore after this the holder of Pināka (Çiva) on his head for a hundred thousand years, and in V,2828:

Atra Gangam Mahadevah patantim gaganac cyutani pratigrhya dadau loke manuse, brahmavittama

o: Here Mahādeva received the down-pouring, from heaven sent Gangā (Ākāça-Gangā, Vyoma-Gangā), and gave her to the world of man, o thou who is full of Brahmaknowledge,

# and in III,8646:

Eşā Bhāgirathi puṇyā devagandharvasevitā vāterītā patākêva virājati nabhastale Pratāryamāṇā kūteşu yathānimmeşu nityaçah çilātaleşu santrastā

pannagendravadhūr iva
Daxiņām vāi diçam sarvām
plāvayantī ca mātrvat
pūrvam Çambhor jaṭābhraṣtā
samudramahisī priyā.

- o: That holy Bhāgīrathī, who is worshipped by gods and Gandharva's shines far and wide over the heavens like a pennant fanned by the wind, it is perpetually conducted downwards over the lower mountain tops, lying like a serpent king's mistress, trembling on the rocks, she, the dear queen of the sea overflows all the southern district (nourishing it) like a mother after having first streamed from Çambhu's (Çiva's) hair. See further III,10807. XIII,1880.
- 2) Daxa's offer or Civa's wrath. After Krta-Yuga's expiration the gods wished to institute an offering and consequently made preparations for the same in accordance with the instructions of the Veda's. Prajapati-Daxa, a son of Pracetas (XIX,12214), undertook the sacrifice and performed it on Himavat, in that place where Ganga bursts forth from the mountains; but the gods themselves decided who should have a part of the sacrifice. Not knowing Rudra intimately, they did not give him anything. So Rudra went angrily to the place of sacrifice and took his bow with him. Instantly the mountains began to shake, the wind left off blowing, the fire would not burn, the stars glimmered in fear, the sun lost its glory and the moon its beauty, and all the air was enveloped in thick darkness. Then the gods were frightened. Civa shot right through the sacrifice, which in the shape of a hart took flight to heaven

together with Agni. When the sacrifice had vanished the gods lost their senses and all things were obscured. Civa in his wrath broke Savitar's (the sun's) arms and Püşan's teeth, and tore Bhaga's eyes out with his bow. Then the gods and the different parts of the offering took flight, and when Civa had driven them all away, he laughed. But when a word spoken by the immortals rent his bow-string, the gods immediately sought the bowless deity and tried to appease him. His temper softened, Mahādeva threw his anger into the sea, gave Bhaga his eyes, Savitar his arms and Pūṣan his teeth again, and order was once more restored. From that time Civa was allowed the melted butter as his part of the sacrifice.

Thus this tale is related in its simplest form in X,786. In close conformity with this is the story in VII,9516. A more elaborate and, apparently, later description is found in XII,10272 foll. and XIX.12212 foll. There are a number of references to the myth in different parts of the Mahābhārata, for Ex. III,1627. X,253. XIII,7468 etc., likewise in Rāmāyana.

3) Kāma's Incorporeity. Kāma (from kam, to love), also called Manmatha, he who confuses the mind, Madana the intoxicating, Kandarpa the proud? (conf. Kathā-Sarit-S, Tawney's transl. vol. I, p. 155) and Anaāga the Incorporeal, is the god of love, who according to XIX,270.

Gandharvāpsarasānāñ chiva (read: ca) Kāmadevam tathā prabhum

is lord over Gandharva's and Apsarase's.

It is related of him that once, while Qiva was rapt

in prayer, he tried to excite his love for Pārvatī, so that he (Çiva) might beget a son who should be able to overthrow the Dāitya Tāraka, who had conquered all the world. But Çiva was offended at the interruption to his devotions, and with a single glance of his eye he turned Kāma to ashes, see Kālidāsa's Kumāra-Sambhava 3. sarga. This incident is referred to in XII between v. 0975 and 6980, where it says:

Kāmam abhivartamānam anangatvena çamam anayat o: He overpoweied Kāma who attacked him, by rendering him incorporeal. In T,5988 it says:

Auangena kṛte doṣe nêmam garhitum arhasi o: If it is Ananga's fault then you ought not to blame her.

In I,7920 it is said:

Drstvaiva tam Arjunasya Kandarpah samajayata

o: When Arjuna saw her, he fell in love with her.

In III,2086, it is said of Nala:

Kandarpa iva rūpeņa mūrtimān abhavat svayam.

o: In personal beauty he was Kandarpa personified; and in III, 2121:

Atha devāh pathi Nalam dadrçur þhūtale sthitam sāxād iva sthitam mūrtyā Manmatham rūpasampadā.

- o: Then the gods saw Nala standing on the ground in form and beauty Manmatha to the life,
  - 4) Bhaga's eyes. Civa is often named as the

one who killed Bhaga, and the putting out of Bhaga's eyes is particularly referred to; thus he is designated in VII,9588 Bhagaghna, in II,402 Bhaganetrahan. in X,349 Bhaganetrahara, in III,1624, 15857 Bhaganetranipātana, and in XIII,7475 it is said:

Bhagasya nayane kruddhah prahārena vyaçātayat.

- o: With one blow he in his wrath destroyed Bhaga's eyes.
- 5) The Asura Andhaka is also often spoken of as being killed by Giva (VII,2876, 9462. XII,10857. XIII,808).
- 6) The destruction of the three fortresses, Tripura, Çiva's most remarkable exploit. is connected with the war between the gods and the Asuras, in which he and his son Kartikeya (III.14569) took an active part.

Asurāṇām puraṇy-ūsams
trīṇi vīryavatām divi:
ūyasam rajatan chiva
sauvarṇam api chparam,
Naçakat tāni Maghavā
bhettum sarvāyudhair api,
atha sarve Mahārudram
jagmuh çaraṇam arditāh. VII,8666. XIII,7189.

For the mighty Asura's had three fastnesses in heaven, one of iron, one of silver, and one of gold. Vidyunmālin ruled in the first, Tārakāxa in the second, Kamalāxa in the third. Even Maghavat (Indra) with all his weapons could not conquer them. Then the gods had recourse to Rudra and said: protect the three worlds and destroy the city of the Dāitya's, And Çiva agreed to

this, burnt the three fortresses (conf. XIII,7488. VII,9555. VIII,1109, 1569) and exterminated the Dānava's.

He is therefore called Tripurāntakara (II,754, 1641), Tripurārdana (III.14521), Tripuraghna (XII,10357), Tripuraghātin (X,255).

7) The myth of the teacher of the Asuras, the great thinker Uçanas in Mahādeva's stomach, related in XII,10677, is just as fantastic and absurd as a similar story in I,3183 foll. in which it is the disciple who comes out of his teacher Uçana's stomach.

# K. The Sadhya's and

### L. The Siddha's

are often named in the Mahābhārata, but without any further particulars. They are doubtless a kind of perfect, siddha, blessed spirits.

According to VI,254 the Siddha's dwell mostly in the glorious, sacred Uttara-Kuru-land which is described as follows:

Daxinena tu Nīlasya
Meroh pārçve tathôttare
Uttarāh Kuravo rājan
punyāh Siddhanisevitāh,
Tatra vṛxā madhuphalā
nītyapuṣpaphalopamāh
puṣpāṇi ca sugandhīni
raṣavanti phalāni oa,
Sarvakāmaphalās tatra
kecid vṛxā janādhīpa
apare xīriņo nāma
vṛxās tatra narādbipa,

Ye raxanti sadā xīran sadrasan camrtopamani vastrāņi ca piasūyante phalesv-ābharaņāni ca. Sarvā manimayī bhūmih sūxmakā ncanabalukā. maniratnanibham ramyam vajravāidūryasannibham Bhūbhāgam dreyate tatra padmarāgasamaprabham, sarvartusukhasamsparçā nispankā ca janādhipa, Puşkarınyalı çubhas tatra sukhasparçā manoharāh, Devalokacyutāh sarve jäyante tatra mänaiah Çuklābhijanasampanuāh sarve supriyadarçanāh, mithunāni ca jāyante striyaç câpsarasopamāh, Teşău te xīrinām xīram pivanty-amrtasaonibham, mithunam jäyante kale saman tatra pravardhate Tulyarupagunopetam samaveçam tathâiya ca evam evânurüpañ ca cakravākasamam prabho, Nināmayāç ca te lokā nityam muditamānasāh daçavarşasahasrāņi daçayarsaçatānı ca

Jīvanti te mahārāja
na cânyonyam jahaty-uta,
bhāruṇḍa nāma çakunās
tīxṇatuṇḍā bhayānakāh
Tān niharautîha mṛtān
darīṣu praxipanti ca,
Uttarāh Kuravo rājan
vyākhyātās te samāsatah.

o. On the south of the Nila mountain and the northern side of Meru are the sacred Northern Kurus, O king, which are the residence of the Siddhas. The trees there bear sweet fruits, and are always covered with fruits and flowers. All the flowers (there) are fragrant, and the fruits of excellent taste. Some of the trees, again, O king, yield fruits according to (the) will (of the plucker). There are again some other trees, O king, that are called milk-yielding. These always yield milk and the six different kinds of food of the taste of Amrita itself. Those trees also yield cloths and in their fruits are ornaments (for the use of man). The entire land abounds with fine golden sands. A portion of the region there, extremely delightful, is seen to be possessed of the radiance of the ruby or diamond, or of the lapis lazuli or other jewels and gems. All the seasons there are agreeable and nowhere does the land become miry, O king. The tanks are charming, delicious, and full of crystal water. The men born there have dropped from the world of the celestials. All are of pure birth and all are extremely handsome in appearance. There twins (of opposite sexes) are born and the women

resemble Apsaras in beauty. They drink the milk. sweet as Amrita, of those milk-yielding trees (already mentioned). And the twins born there (of opposite sexes) grow up equal. Both possessed of equal beauty, both endued with similar virtues, and both equally dressed, both grow up in love like, O monarch, a couple of chakravākas. The people of that country are free from illness and are Ten thousand and ten hundred always cheerful. years they live, O king, and never abandon one another. A class of birds called Bharunda. furnished with sharp beaks and possessed of great strength, take them up when dead and throw them into mountain caves. I have now described to thee. O king, the Northern Kurus briefly. (Rov.)

# M. The Valakhilya's

are very small Rsi's who in XIII, 1121 are said to have their origin from Kuça-grass. See further concerning them XIII, 1128.

### N. The Vasu's.

The word vasu comes from vas, to light, to shine, and means therefore lighting shining. In XII,10215 the Vasu's are called amitāujasas.

There are 8 Vasu's and they are sons of Prajāpati Manu (XII,7557), but according to XII,7540 they are sons of Dharma (Yama). They are named in I,2552 as follows.

Dharo Dhruvaç ca Somaç ca Ahaç câiva Anilo 'nalah Pratyūsaç ca Prabhāsaç ca Vasavo 'sṭāv iti smṛtāh, and after this verse all the descendents of the Vasu's are enumerated. In XIII,70% the same verse is found with Sāvitra instead of Aha, and in Harivamça 152 Āpas instead of Aha.

The Vasu's became, after being cursed by Vaçiştha (I,3811), on earth the children of Gangā and King Çāntanu (I,8887), but were saved back to heaven by Gangā.

# 1. Agni.

Agni was the lord of the Vasu's (XII,1199. VII,159). His most frequently occurring names are Pāvaka, Jatavedas, Hutaça, and Vaiçvanara. A number of his other names are mentioned in 11,1145, and in III,14190 the names of many different kinds of fire are to be found, but in III,10002 it is said that there are (only) five (sorts) of fire, and in XIII,1005 ten sorts.

Some of these names refor to Agni as being the god of sacrifices, as f.i. Hutāça, Havyavāhna, Vahni, Pavaka, the greater part express the different attributes to be found in fire, as Jvalana, Vibhāvasu, Citrabhānu, Bhūritejas, Çikhin, Piūgeça, Hıranyakrt, Plavanga, Anala.

His person is merely described by symbolic expressions as Kavi suvarņavarņa (XIII,7220).

He is said to be a son of Brahmā:

Brahmaņo hi prasūto 'gnir. XIII,4168.

His wife is Sväha (Çivā), a daughter of Daxa (V,3650, 14300. III,14514).

His son Skanda (III,14815. XII 18820) is also called Kumāra and Kārtikeya, and the reason he has been given these names, is related in XIII,4087. The myth

concerning his origin etc. is to be found in III 112'18; cfr. IX,2450. XIII,4086, 4190.

Skanda's wife was Devasenā (III,11150).

Skanda has 6 faces, he is sammukha, (VII, 2154), sadānana (Rāmāyana I.17. 128), and 12 ears, eyes, hands (XII, 4500) and feet, but only 1 neck and 1 stomach. He is dressed in everlasting red clothes (III, 14138) and rides on a peacock (XIII, 871).

His banner which was given him by Agni, flames high on his chariot, red as the fire at the destruction of the world.

His spear never misses its mark (XIII,4214), and as often as it is thrown, it returns to him again after having killed enemies by thousands (III,11618). As an instance of his immense strength is related in XIL 18820 that he once when a boy in contempt for the three worlds thrust his spear into the ground, saying: if there is any stronger than I, then let him pull this spear out or at all events shake it. When the three worlds heard this challenge they trembled and said: who can loosen this lance? Then Vignu took lightly hold of the lance with his left hand and moved it, and immediately all the earth shook with its mountains, forests and seas, and when the Daitya Prahlada, Hiranyakacipu's son, tried to pull the spear up, he could not accomplish the feat, but fainted away. With his arrows Skanda split the rock Krāunca in Himavat (III,1438). He is the commander in chief of the army, senāpati(IX,9498. XIII,4180, 4918. III.14494. 14541). He is named Pāyaki (III.1576. 14878) after his father, Pavaka, the purifying Agni; and as Civa's adopted son he is also called Rudrasuna (III,14428). In III,14830 31 of his names are enumerated

very few of which characterise him as a war-god. Concerning his deeds we must mention that, in the warring of the gods against the Asura's, he killed Mahişa (III,11610) and Tāraka (XIII,4181), by which he reestablished Surendra, the Indra of the Sura's, in the supremacy (XIII,4215).

Agni is most often accompanied by Vāyu, the wind, (I,7682. III,8896), who is called his friend (V,3812).

Agneya astra is mentioned in VII,9406.

As the personification of fire Agni has a double character because he partly represents the sacrifical fire, partly the cosmical fire.

1. The first is clearly shown from passages where he is called Hutuça (II, 1150), Hutabhuj (I,994), Devanam mukha (I,997. II,1115), Devatānām pitīnān ca mukha (I,990).

Tvam Agne sarvadevanām mukham, tvam asi havyavāt. V.488. Vedoktena vidhānena mayi yad dhūyate havih devatāh pitaraç cāiva tena tṛptā bhavanti vāi, Devatāh pitaraç cāiva bhunjante mayi yad dhutam, devatūnām pitṛṇān ca mukham etad aham smṛtam. I,81

o: Thou, o Agni, art the mouth of an the gous, thou art the one who brings the offering (to the gods); the butter that is offered in me according to the rules prescribed in the Veda's, with that are the gods and the ancestors satisfied, the gods

and the Pitr's enjoy that which is offcred through me, therefore I am called the mouth of the gods and the pitr's.

Agni upholds the sacrificial ceremonies (I,029). He purifies from all sin, therefore he is called Pāvaka (II,1146). And he is the sacrifice itself (II,1145. V,486).

2. The second clearly appears from many passages, as f.i. V.485 where it is said of Agni:

Tvām āhur ekam Kavayas.

tvām āhur trividham punah,

tvayā tyaktam jagac cēdam

sadyo nacyed Dhutāgana (cfr. I,8855).

o: The poets say, thou art one, and again they say, thou art threefold, deserted by thee this world would at once be ruined, o Hutāçana;

then this trinity is explained in I,929 where it says:

Lokānām iha sarvesam tvam kartā cânta eva ca tvam dhārayasi lokāms trīn kriyānān ca pravartakah.

o: Thou art the creator of all worlds, and also the end of them, thou upholdest the three worlds, and promotest the work of offering.

Agni is the lightning in the clouds (I,8857. V,488). He hides himself in the interior of the Çamī-wood (IX,2745), and although he fears water as his natural opposite (V.490). yet he is said to have originated in the water (XII,6778) and to be the foster of water, apām garbha, yes even that he is in the water (III,14208) whilst he on the other hand is said to be

the real cause of the existence of water (II.1150) III,14912, XII,8516), and there is laid stress upon the fact that the waters are deposited in him (V.489). The, rivers are called the mothers of fire-places (III,14233). Mudikī, the dear wife of the fire Saha. lived in the water (III,14208). Saha enters the water (III,14214).

Agni is hidden in the interior of all beings (I,889, 8653. V,483) and in consequence he knows everything:

> Na te 'ty-aviditam kiñcit trisu lokesu Pāvaka. V.589.

and is called Jatavedas (II,1148).

The Deeds of Agni.

# Agni helps king Nila.

Agni had fallen in love with king Nīla's beautiful daughter who generally took care of her father's sacred fire. And Agni, desiring her for his wife, went one day in the shape of a brahmana to king Nila and wooed the girl. After some opposition king Nila consented and gave her to him. Then Agni favoured him and helped the king in his strife with Sahadeva. The latter's chariots, horses, elephants and himself suddenly burst into flames, and Sahadeva did not know what to do. And the same thing happened to all those princes who tried to subdue king Nila, they were powerless against him and were all devoured by Hutaça (II,1180 foll.).

# b. Agni is cursed by Bhrgu.

Bhrgu's wife Pulomā became pregnant. One day while Bhrgu was absent the Raxasa Puloma came to 176 vayu

Bhrgu's dwelling. Pulomā received him hospitably. The Rāxasa was seized with desire for Pulomā and determined to abduct her. Pulomā had formerly been hetrothed to Puloma, but had since been lawfully given by her father to Bhrgu. Now Puloma carried her off. But when Bhrgu heard that Agni had disclosed her to the Rāxasa who by the way did not know that she was Bhrgu's wife, then he cursed Agni (I.875). The result was that Agni withdrew from all sacrifices and would not take part in them (1X,2745) and disappeared. Then the gods became alarmed, sought zealously for him and found him at last in the Cami-tree. Then Agni returned, the sacrifices were resumed, and all mankind, Rsi's and gods rejoiced.

### 2. Vāyu.

Vāyu from vā, to blow, is also called Vata (I,5008). III,11914), Marut, Anila from an, to breathe, and Pāvana from pū, to cleanse (XII,5850), of which names the three first are doubtless originally expressions for the violent and destructive qualities of the wind, the two last for the gentle and beneficial. The names, however, seem later to have been used indiscriminately. Conf. under Çiva and Viṣṇu.

Agacchan puruso Vāyur
mayā vistambhito balāt
bhañjan drumān parvatāmç ca
yac cânyad apı kiñcana——
na hi Vāyor balenāstı
bhūtam tulyabalam kvacit,
Indro Yamo Vaigravano
Varunaç ca jaleçvarah

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naite 'pi tulya Marutah kim punas tvam vanapate. XII,528.

o: When the doughty Vāyu came I stopped him with might, although he easily breaks trees and splits mountains and anything else of the kind, for there is not anywhere any other being that can be compared with Vāyu in strength, Indra Yama Vāiçravaņa and Varuņa, the Lord of the waters, even these are not equal to Marut (in power) much less thou o tree.

> Tato 'ualasukho Väyus pravavau devaveçmasu Işṭagandhah sukhaspurçah sarvendriyasukhāvahah. XII,sas.

o: Then Anala's friend Vayu, full of a delightful fragrance and pleasant to the touch, blew through the dwellings of the gods, filling all senses with pleasure.

Vayu is often spoken of as a friend of Agni.

#### 3. Soma.

Soma is one of the most frequently occurring names in the MBh. for the Moon (I,2582. III,1715. IX,2011. XIII,7211). More rarely it is named Candramas (XII,4499). Candra, the luminous (IX.221), Çaçin having a hare (as emblem) III,2187, Indu (I,2577) and Jayantu (XIII,7092).

The Moon was made the ruler over the naxatra's XII,4499.

Soma's father was Atrī (XIII,7218), cfr. under Varuna.

He was married to 27 daughters of Daxa prajāpati
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(I,2550. XII,7511). The story of this marriage is found in a more elaborate form in IX,2013 follow. I give the shorter tale in Vol. III p. 833, which runs as follows:

Daxasya ya vai duhitarah şaşţir asan, tabhyah Kaçyapāya trayodaça prādāt daça Dharmāya daça Manave saptavimoatim Indave, tāsu tulyāsu Naxatrākhyāju gatāsu Somo Rohinyam abhyadhikam pritiman abhut tatas tah çiştah patnya îrşavatyalı pituh samîpan gatva imam artham çaçamsuh: Bhagavanı asmāsu tulyaprabhavāsu Somo Rohinim pratyadhikam bhajatîti. So 'bravid: yaxmâinam āviçyata iti Daxaçāpāt Somam rājānani yaxmā viveça, sa yaxmanâvisto Daxam agamat. Daxaç câinam abravīt: na samam vartayasīti; tatrarşayah Somam abruvau: xīyase yaxmanā paçcimasyām diçi samudre Hiranyasarastīrtham, tatra gatvā ātmānam abhisecasyêti; athâ-Somas tatra Hiranyasarastīrtham gatvā câtgacchat. manah secanam akarot snātva câtmānam pāpmano mocayam asa, tatra cavabhisitas tirthe yada Somas tada prabhṛti ca tīrtham tat Prabhāsam iti nāmnā khyātam habhūva, tacchāpād adyāpi Somah amāvāsyāntarāsthah päurnamäsimätre 'dhisthitah meghalekhapraticchannani vapur darçayati meghasadıçam varnam agamat tad asya cacalaxma vimalam abhavat.

o: Daxa's daughters were 60 in number, of these he gave 13 to Kaçyapa, 10 to Dharma (Yama), 10 to Manu, 27 to Indu, amongst these who were all equally gifted, and were known as naxatra's, Soma felt a passionate love for Rohinī alone, therefore the others were envious and went to their father and said: o most reverend one, although we are all equal in descent still Soma seeks Rohinī's society most, Daxa said: sickness shall seize him, thereupon king Soma

was seized with illness on account of Daxa's curse: overcome by disease he went to Daxa, and Daxa said to him: thou dost not treat thy wives equally well, thou art not just (towards thy wives). The sages said to Soma: thou art wasted by sickness, in the western district, by the sea, there is a bathing place called Hiranya-saras, go there and bathe. Thereupon Soma journeyed there and having arrived at Hiranya-tirtha he bathed there and having bathed he freed himself from sin, and as Soma beamed there in the bath darting rays of light, then the bathing place became afterwards renowned under the name of Prabhasa. On account of the curse Soma is up to the present day hidden in the night until the first quarter, but when the moon is at its full, it shows a body that is covered by a line of clouds, it has then a mark which clearly resombles a hare.

A myth related to the story of Soma tells how Rāhu tried to swallow both sun and moon. See above.

In XIII,6751 Rohinī is called Çaçin's pious wife. Soma's daughter Bhadrā was married to Utathya. but was stolen by Varuna (XIII,7841), see above.

His daughter Jyotsnākālī was married to Puşkara, Varuņa's handsome and intellectual son (V,3553).

In V,8804 it is said about the moon:

Atra pītvā samastān vāi Varuņasya rasāms tu sat jāyate taruņah Somah cukrasyádāu tamisrahā. o: Here having drunk all Varunas sex juices the infant Soma is born who kills darkness in the beginning of the light (half-moon).

# O. Vidyādhara's.

The Vidyādhara's are aërial spirits who live on the top of the mountain Krāuāca in Himavat (IX,2704).

When warriors fight with one another the Vidyādhara's are said to send a rain of flowers down on them (VII,5716).

Their chief is Cakradharman (II, 108).

### III. YAXA'S.

The word yaxa is probably only a differentiated form of raxas as Yaxa's and Rāxasa's are very often mentioned together, see I,00. 7658, 2712. VI,1227, 1100 follow, and as the Yaxa's are said to have seceded from the Rāxasa's with Kuvera at their head, see below. Kuvera was a brother of Rāvaņa, the prince of the Rāxasa's.

The Yaxa's are generally identified with the Guhyaka's (V.7480. VI,510. XII,10216), yet these are sometimes mentioned apart from the Yaxa's (I,36).

The origin of the Yaxa's is stated in very different ways.

The function of the Yaxa's is to protect their rince Kuvera, Dhaneçvara, the God of riches:

Yaxottama Yaxapatim Dhaneçam raxanti vai prāsagadāsihastāh Hariv. 1912.

o: The foremost Yaxa's protect the Yaxa-prince, the Lord of richos, armed with javelins, clubs and swords,

and to guard his fortress and his garden, see below. and compare the beginning of Kālidāsa's Meghadūta.

# Kuvera, the Godd of Riches.

# His Lincage.

Kuvera belongs originally to the Asura's, his father was the Brahman sago and muni Vicravas, and his mother's name was Ilavila. His three half-brother's were Rūvaņa, the Raxas'es mighty king of Ceylon, Kumbhakarņa and Vibhīsana, and his half-sister Gūrpanakha, who are all sons and daughters of Kāi-kasī (Ram. VII, 19. 19.—15, in another form in M. III, 1589). Kaikasī was a daughter of the Rāxasa Sumāli, who lived in Patala when Kuvera reigned in Laāka. Kuvera's wife was named Riddhi (M. XIII, 1750) and his son Nalakūvara (M. II, 100. III, 1566. IX, 1767).

### His Names.

Kuvera is doubtless—kuvīra and means therefore the same as kinnara and kimpurusa and kupuruṣa — what a (wretched or hideous) man! He is described as being with three legs and only eight teeth (Wilson's Dict.). Others define the word as a possessive compound with the definition: he who has a hideous body, as, vera, it is opined, means body. Upon this we have however only later lexicographers' authority, but no examples from literature.

In the Mahabharata and Ramayana the following names are used for Kuvera: as a son of Vicravas he is named Vaigravana (M. III,11658. II,381. R. IV,16. 23). After his mother, Ilavila he is called Ailavila (M. V,3840), after his principal city Alakadhipa, Alaka's ruler (M. IX,383), after his subjects: Kinnare quara, Guhyādhipa (M. III.11834), Yaxarāj (R. IV.48, 23). Yaxādhipa (Nala 13, 23), Yaxarājan (M. IX,2755). Rāxaseçvara (M. III,15890), Rāxasādhipati (M. II,110. III,11705), Yaxaraxodhipati (M. X.10606) o: Lord over Kinnaras. Guhyakas, Yaxas, Raxas. As a mighty king he is titled Rajaraja (M. III,11958. Meghaduta 7), king of kings. As the god of riches he is called Dhanada (M. V,3881. XII,10668. R. VI,11, 25), Dhanupati (M. XIII 1007. III,11708. Meghadūta 7), Dhanadhipa, Dhanādhipati (M. III,11766, 11768). Dhanadhyaxa (R. VII,11, 7), Dhanequara, dhananam iquara (M. III,1672, 11409. XII,2819, 7552. XIII,1069. R. VII.11, 49). Nidhipa (M. XII,7552), Vittapāla (R. VII,11, 26). Vitteça (R. VII,11, 27), and it is said that his body is made of gold (M. III,1678).

## Kuvera is driven from Ceylon.

That king of kings, borne on men's shoulders (M. III,15902) and honoured by all gods (R. III,48, 21) reigned first in Laākā, but his brother Rāvaņa with the ten heads (daçānana R. VII,11, 27, daçagrīva M. III,15920), excited by his grandfather Sumāli picked a quarrel with him saying: "This lovely city belonged once to the Rāxasa's with Sumāli at their head, give it therefore back again". And he conquered him in the battle, drove him out of Laākā and even deprived him of the chariot

Pushpaka which Brahmā had given him (M. III,15886 foll.). Followed by Gandharva's, Yaxa's, (some) 1 Raxasa's and. Kimpurusa's and accompanied by his pious (dharmatman III,15028, dharmistha 11411) brother Vibhisana, who as a reward for his fidelity was made Commander-in-Chfef of the Raxasa and Yaxa armies (M. III,15925, conf. III. p. 838?), Kuvera journeyed by the advice of his father, with wife, son and servant, with his chariots and his goods and chattels to Himālaya, to the balmy and beautiful mountain Gandhamādana and to Kāilāsa with the river Mandakini, the most lovely of all streams, covered with fragrant golden lotuses, which shine like the sun. While Kuvera took up his abode in Himavat, Ravana marched with his cannibal Raxasa's into the empty city of Lanka (R. VII,11, 17), from where he afterwards attacked both Deva's and Daitya's seized their treasures, and because he caused loud wailing and lamentation (rāvayām āsa) he was called Rāvana M. III,15991).

# Himālaya.

The Himavat mountains hold the highest place amongst all the mountains in the world (M. XIII,1407), they are praised as being divine, holy and loved by the gods (M. III,1495) and they are protected by Rāxasa's and Piçāca's (M. VIII,2104). From them the ascent is made, through the air. up to Svarga-heaven with the Nandana forest, the home of the inhabitants of heaven, the Deva's. The high Kuvera enjoys a fourth

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I have added somes before Raxasa's hecause I assume that the Raxasa's have formed two parties, viz: one that sided with Ravana and one that kept to his banished brother. Conf. also III,1256.

part of Meru's treasures and he gives a sixteenth part to mankind.

South of Mount Nīla and on the north side of Meru (M. VI,551) lies the holy northerly Kuru-land where the Siddhas dwell. The trees there are always in flowers and always bear fruit, and the flowers exhale a delicious odour and the fruits are luscious, and any-body can pluck as many flowers as he likes. Some of the trees give milk continuouly, with six sorts of juice equal to Amrita, and others give raiment, and the fruit serves as ornaments. The lotus ponds are lovely, and the soil is strewed with fine gold sand and gleams with diamonds and other precious stones, the joys of all seasons rule here, and all those people who have fallen down from (5: have lived their time out in) the world of the gods, are re-born here. (If r. supra p. 167.

### Kuvera's land.

Among Himālaya's many great and small mountains Kuvera chose Kāilāsa (also called Hemakūta) (M. III,12840. VI,229, 296, 246. V,3840) and Gandhamadana (III,11600) as his favourite dwelling place. Gandhamādana darkens like a cloud in the sky. It is inhabited by hosts of Yaxa's, Gandharva's, Sura's and Brahma sages (M. III,11080), and with clouds on its sides it seems to dance with outspread wings (M. III,11001). The mountain has forests with different kinds of flowers. rivers and lakes with fresh golden lotuses, and with a swarm of swans, Kārandavas and Cakravākas in the lotus-filled river it resembles a wreath on the mountain's temples. Herds of wild elephants, timid antelopes

with grass in their mouths, buffalos, bears and leopards graze there (M. III.1117, V,2170). On Gandhamādana's summits Kuvera, the lord of Guhyakas' wanders at peace together with the Raxasa's and surrounded by hosts of Apsaras'es (M. VI.229). The Guhya's protect the mountain (M. VIII.2108). The whitish-yellow (R. IV 19, 20) Kāilāsa is 6 yojana's high (M. III.40830), and a gigantic jujube tree is found there. It is likewise covered with lovely woods, rivers, lakes and caves (M. III.12119).

Here Kuvera was installed by Brahmā himself (M. V, 1810) in dominion over all riches (M. IX,2738 XII,4106) and over Raxasa's. Yaxa's and Gaudharva's, and he repoiced greatly (M. XII,1529).

At the entrance to Käilasa there is a golden gate (M. XIII.112).

Kuvera's great forest, mahadvana, is called Nandana (M. II, Vaynpurana p. 358). His grove (udyana. vana) is called Caitraratha (V. 3891. R. VI,111, 11. M. III.11267. I.2876, J282).

His river is the beautiful Mandakini (M. XIII,1112, 1113, 1560. R. III,5, 36. VII.11. 11), the first of rivers whose waters are decked with golden lotuses, that resemble the sun.

His lotus-lake, Nalinī or Jāmbūnada-saras, the golden lake (M. V. 1813) is called Alakā (M. II,880). It is full of divine, fragrant, golden Sāugandhika lotuses and all sorts of aquatic birds, surrounded by lovely woods with thick trees and climbing plants. Its water is clear and cool, and has an ambrosial taste. It is guarded by Rāxasa's named Krodhavaça's with their king Manibhadra at their head (M. III,11451, 10886, XIII,1418. R. IV.13. 22. Nala 12 v. 130).

A hathing place is named after him (Kuvera) and is called tirtha Kāuvera (M. IX,2752).

His city. pura, āvāsa, ālaya, sadana, is called Alakā (Megh. v. 7) and himself after it Alaka's prince Alakā dhipa (M. IX.180). It is embellished with golden houses, crystal palaces and entirely surrounded by a golden wall with doors and gates. Rows of flags and banners flutter in the wind, and dancing jesting women are seen everywhere (M. III,11697, 11753-51).

His palace, bhavana, which is built by Viçvakarman, shines like the white-yellow cloud and is edged with gold (R. IV, 43, 21. M. III, 11852).

His assembly-hall, sabha, which is built by himself on the strength of his great sacrificial power is 100 yojana's in length and 70 in breadth. It is as bright as the peaks of Kāilāsa, and its white sheen eclipses even the splendour of the moon. Borne by Guhyaka's it seems to float in the air. The heavenly palace is resplendent with lofty halls of gold. It glitters with coloured pearls, and is delightful with its divine fragrance. On a throne, which shines like the sun, sits in this hall the high Vāiçravana in a dress with coloured ornaments, and with shining earrings. The throne and the throne footstool are covered with divine carpets A cool refreshing breeze, which rushes through a forest of high Mandara trees, and brings with it a delightful odour from clusters of Saugandhika lotuses in Lake Alaka and from the Nandana forest, refreshes him. and innumerable hosts of Apsaras'es and Gandharva's worship the giver of riches and serve him with dance and song. There the Guhyaka's, Yaxa's, Rāxasa's, Piçāca's Vidyadhara's gather, and all mountains and hills, impersonated, with Meru at their head, and Sankha and Padma, the greatest of all eminent treasures. Here Laxmi with Qiva and Umn come and many others (M. II,888).

His chariot, vāhana, vimāna, which was built by Viçvakarman, is ornamented with painted edges and goes wherever one wishes, it is called Pushpaka (M. III,14546). It was given him by Brahmā togother with the sway of all riches, divinity and immortality, suratva, amaratva, sovereignty as the world's guardian, lokapālatva, friendship with Rudra and a son Nalakūvara (M. III,15886, 11775. IX,2736. R. III,14, 6). When Rāvaṇa took away his chariot (see above) Kuvera cursed him using these words: "It shall not bear thee, but it shall bear him who shall overthrow thee in the strife, and thou shalt soon die because thou hast scoffed at me, thine elder brother" (M. III,15622).

His favourito weapon, asta priya, is Antardhana, a strong, sharp, shining weapon which lays the enomy low or forces him to take flight. With it Çankara destroyed of yore Tripura and crushed the mighty Asura's (M. III,1702).

His favourite drink is honey, madhu, he has a jar full of it standing on the mountain Gandhamādana in an inaccessible chasm. It is guarded by poisonous serpents. If a mortal partook of it he would gain immortality, a blind man would recover his sight and an old man would be rejuvenated (M. V,2474).

Kuvera forms, it appears, an intermediate link between the cannibal Rāxasa's and the Surian Deva's. He leaves the Troll's in Ceylon and goes to the gods on Himālaya and associates with them. He even becomes Qiva's friend. It is clear that among the Deva's Rudra is the one most closely united to him. As a proof of his admission to the celestial regions we may refer to his being called a Deva in the Rāmāyaṇa VII,11, so, and in Manu V,85 he is named amongst the Lokapāla's (Guardians of the world).

# APPENDIX TO KUVERA.

India has long been looked upon as the cradle of fairy tales and legends, and such is indeed the case, for beside numbers of short folk-stories such as Vetāla-pancavinicati, 25 Tales by a Ghost. Cukasaptati. 70 Tales by a Parret, Simhāsana-dvātrimcat, 32 Tales by the Images on Vikramaditya's Thronc, and beside those found spread throughout the Mababharata and Rāmāvana and in fact in all the Indian literature with its commentaries, we have the following important collections of fables, fairy stories and tales; The Jatakabook concerning the Transmigration of souls, from about 477 B. C., published by V. Faushøll in 7 vols. 1877-971; the Pañcatantra-book in 5 chap., by Visnuçarman, from about 530 A. D. published first by Kosegarten 1848 since by Kielhoru and Bühler 1868-81. 2 ed. 18822; Hitopadeca, the Beneficial Instruction, published by, Carey 1804, by Schlegel and Lassen 1829-31, by P. Peterson 18873; Kathāsaritsāgara, the Lake of

Of an English transl, by E. Cowell 4 vols. have appeared 1895—1901. <sup>2</sup> Transl, into German by Benfey 1—2 vols. 1859. by Fritze 1884, into French by Lancereau 1871, into Danish in extracts by Haiald Rasmussen 1893. <sup>3</sup> Transl, into English by Wilkens 1787 into German by Max Müller 1844, Schönberg 1884, Fritze 1888, into French by Lancerau 1855.

Legend Streams by Somadeva, from about 1063, published by Brockhaus, 1839—66, and by Durgāprasāda 1889¹; Kshemendra's Avadāna Kalpalatā, 1—2 vols. 1888—97. H. Jacobi, Erzählungen in Māhārāshtrī, 1886. Kathā Kosha a Treasury of Tales, transl. by Tawney, 1895. (Or. Transl. Fund). Die Āvaṣyaka-Erzählungen. Herausgeg. von E Leumann 1897. (In Abhdl. für die Kunde des Morgenlandes. Bd. 10).

To these must be added from more modern times. Frere, Old Deccan Days; or Hindu Fairy Legends. 1868; Stokes, Indian Fairy Tales; Lal Behari Day, Folk-Tales of Bengal. 1883; Steel and Temple, Wide awake Stories. Bombay 1884. Temple, The Logends of the Panjāb, 1—2 vols. 1884—85; Knowles, Folk-Tales of Kashmir, 1888; Swynnerton, Indian Night's Entertainment, or Folk-Tales from the Upper Indus. London 1892; and from the latest date many stories communicated in the periodical: The Indian Antiquary.

It can be proved that some of the old Indian tales have simply wandered through literature from east to west, to Persians, Hebrews, Arabians, Syrians, Greeks, Turks and into European Folk-literature of the middle ages, others have probably been transmitted and spread from land to land all over the world by word of mouth. But in all cases the greater part of the Folk-Tales, both on the whole and in many separate characteristics, point back to India as the land of their birth, and it is Theodor Benfey's great merit that he has proved this, in his thorough researches, in the introduction to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Transl. into English by Tawney, 1—2 vols, 1880—84.

his translation of Pancatantra. And when the old Greek authors. Herodot, Ktesias. Strabo and Ælian speak of gold digging ants, of grifins, og pigmies, of one-legged men, of others with dog's heads and the like, it is evident that these tales are only a reflection of the imaginative mind of India.

Some of the principal elements in the fables are gold, silver and precious stones. Who has not heard of Jason with the golden fleece, of Fafnir, who guards the gold on Gnita Heath, of the Asa's who throw golden dice on the plain of Ida, of Sif's golden hair, of the boar Goldbristle, of Goldmanc, the golden ring Draupnir etc.: and who has not read Asbjørnsen's and Moe's fairy tales Kari Træstak; East of the Sun and West of the Moon. The Maiden on the Glass Mountain, The three Sisters, who are taken into the mountain and similar goblin stories from all countries, in which precious metals play an important part.

In India we read of serpents (nāga, sarpa) in ant-hills full of gold (Pañcatantra III,5, 10), of gold en haṁsa's (Pañcat. III,5; Jūtaka Nr. 136), of the Nāga who makes a present of jewels to the king who saved its life (Jūtaka Nr. 386), of the princess who will only marry one who has seen the golden city (Kathā-Sarit-Sāgara V,24), of the golden lotuses (Kathā-S.-S. V,25), of Çiva's garden of golden trees with branches of jewels and flowers with clusters of pearls (K.-S.-S. LX,53) and so forth.

How does it happen that precious metals and minerals play so important a part in India's tales (and therefore also in those originating from there). The

simple reason is because India has always been richly endowed with the same.

An early proof of this fact we gather from the records of the ancient Greeks. Thus Megastheres relates that whilst the land on its surface bears all kinds of cultivated fruits, it has underneath numerous veins of all sorts of metals. for it is in possession of much gold and silver, and not a little copper and iron. ves, even tin and other metals which are used in the manufacture of useful articles and ornaments, as well as implements of war. He furthermore says that Taprobane (Ceylon) produces more gold and more large pearls than the continent of India, and people's raiment is interwoven with gold and ornamented with gems. further relates about gold digging ants amongst the Dards 1 and says that the rivers carry gold dust 2, and that part of it is given in tribute to the king.

Another proof is the numbers of mines still being worked in India. According to Constable's Hand Atlas of India there are about 59 gold mines, 14 silver mines, 34 diamond mines, beside 105 iron-, 55 copper- and 21 lead mines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Schiern's treatise on the gold digging ants, 1873. <sup>2</sup> Conf. Gertz's transl of Lucian p. 158: An Indian ant, of those who diggold. Mikylos: And to think that I, ass that I was, should have hesitated in my former life to provide myself with only a trifling portion of gold dust, to bring with me into the present! <sup>3</sup> Temple. India p. 303: India is one of the oldest gold-producing countries in the world. — Marshman says in his History of India I p. 10. that when Darius had conquered India, this land yielded <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of his income and that the tribute was paid in gold, while the tribute from the rest of the state was only paid in silver, — Friedlinder says in his Sittengeschichte III p. 50: Cleve who wandered about in the vaults of Murshadahad amongst heaps of Gold and jewels

The great conquerors whose desire it was to reach India also give evidence of this. We must first mention the traditions concerning Dionysus and Hercules, then the invasions of Cyrus, Darius. Alexander, the Çakas (Scythians), Mahmud of Ghasna, the Mongol Tamerlan, (even Napoleon's thoughts have been busy with India) until at last, of European Mercantile Companies, the English in 1757 gained the mastery and after the mutiny in 1857 proclaimed Queen Victoria "Empress of India". The country is now governed by a Vicercy.

Considering these things can we wonder that we in India find a God of Riches, a god for those riches that grow in the mountain and not those that grow in the fields?

<sup>—</sup> still his purchase of diamonds came in Madras alone to 25,000 £, and a box with jewellery belonging to his wife was valued at 200,000 £.

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